

THE

HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTY OF LINCOLN,

FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD TO THE PRESENT TIME;

BY

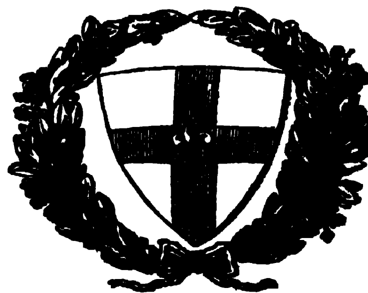
The Author of the Histories of London, Yorkshire, Lambeth, Surrey, Essex, &c. &c. &c.

Assisted by several Gentlemen residing in the County,

Eminent, either for their well known Literary Abilities, or their extensive Local Knowledge.

EMBELLISHED BY NUMEROUS VIEWS.

VOL. II.



LONDON & LINCOLN:

JOHN SAUNDERS, JUNIOR.

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HISTORY

THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

BOOK IV.

TOPOGRAPHY OF THE PARTS OF LINDSEY.

CHAPTER I.

WAPENTAKE OF CORRINGHAM.—HISTORIC NOTICES OF THE TOWN OF GAINSBURGH, POPULATION, &c.

During the period of the Roman domination, no mention of GAINSBURGH is to be found in any itinerary; nor can it be assumed to have been known to that people. The nearest Roman road is about five miles from this town, affording no data from whence any conclusion can be drawn; as it is by no means certain, that Roman stations or colonies are only to be found situated upon, or closely adjoining to, ancient roads.

It is not improbable, however, but that the Romans might occupy some part of the ground; and the existence of at least one Roman camp in the neighbourhood, proves that the people had a settlement at no great distance.

"It would appear, from an examination of the ground upon which Gainsburgh now stands, that, at some former period, the waters of the sea overflowed not only its site, but also the whole of the low lands between the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire hills, and extended round the Isle of Lindsey, as Speed with much propriety terms it, from the mouth of the Trent to that of the Witham; for on digging a very little way below the surface, a stratum of sand is discovered, evidently shewing the late formation of the incumbent soil. Nor are we left entirely to conjecture, in establishing the truth of this extraordinary circumstance. Several ancient canoes have been dug up, not only in the neighbourhood of Gainsburgh, but also in the fens below Lincoln: and very lately, (in 1816) one about two miles to the east of that

BOOK IV. city. Other investigators have also discovered the existence of ancient forests,* in this neighbourhood, which must be supposed to have reference to a period long antecedent to our knowledge, and prove that this part of the country has undergone great changes over its whole surface."†

Gainsburgh is first mentioned during the period of the Saxon heptarchy; and to that people its foundation may be ascribed. An excellent salmon fishery, in its immediate neighbourhood, would collect together a few huts; and its situation, near the spot where the Trent is in most seasons fordable, would undoubtedly distinguish it as a military position.

Etymology. That it is to the Saxons Gainsburgh owes its origin, may also be concluded from the termination of the name; burg ‡ being the common characteristic of a Saxon city, and, if we may believe Littleton, its foundation may, on this account, be referred to a very early period.§ But the origin of the first part of the name, as well as its meaning, has puzzled etymologists. By some, Gainsburgh is derived from the Anglo-Saxon Genes-buruh or Genesr-buruh—genes, signifying a sanctuary, and buruh a town: the sanctuary town, or town of refuge; which appellation it might derive from the neighbourhood of a castle or other fortification, which alone, in those days, could be depended upon for protection and safety.

By other writers, Gainsburgh is asserted to have been called Danes-borough; in consequence of that people having, in the early part of their incursions into England, fixed their

* "Round about by the skirts of the Lincolnshire woolds, unto Gainsburgh, Bautry, Doncaster, Buln, Snaith, and Holden, are found infinite millions of the roots and bodies of trees, great and little, of most of the sorts that this island either formerly did, or at present does produce, as firs, oaks, birch, beech, yew, wirethorn, willow, ash, &c.; the roots of all or most of which stand in the soil in their natural postures, as thick as ever they could grow, as the bodies of most of them lie by their proper roots. Most of the great trees lie all their length about a yard from their great roots, unto which they did most eminently belong, (both by their situation and the sameness of their wood,) with the tops commonly north-east; though the smaller trees lie almost every way across those, some above, some under, a third part of all which are firs, some of which have been found of thirty yards length and above, and have been sold to make masts and keels for ships. Oaks have been found of 20, 30, and 35 yards long, yet wanting many yards at the small end, some of which have been sold for 4, 8, 10, and £15. a piece, which are as black as ebony, and very lasting and durable. The ashes are as soft as earth, and are commonly cut in pieces by the workman's spades, which as soon as flung up into the open air, fall away into dust; but all the rest, even the willows themselves, which are softer than ashes, preserve their substance and texture to this day. I have seen some fir trees that as they have laid all along, after that they were fallen, have struck up great branches from their sides, which have grown into the thickness and height of considerable trees. Hazel nuts and acorns have frequently been found at the bottom of the soil of those levels and moors, and fir apples, or cones, in great quantities, by whole bushels together."—*Pryme's Account of Trees found under ground in Hatfield Chace, Philos. Tr. No. 275, p. 980.*

† Stork's History of Gainsburgh, 8vo 1817—p. 22

‡ "Burg, A. S. a city, and Burg, Teutonic, a defence or fortification."—*Gazophylacium Anglicanum, 12mo. London,* 1687. "The termination of burgh, denominates always a Saxon town, city, tower, or castle."—*Camden's Britannia.*

§ "Les ancient villes appellez burghes, sont les plus ancient villes que sont deins Engleterre; car ceux villes qui ore sont cities ou counties, en ancient temps fueront burghes & appellez burghes; car de tielx ancients villes appelles burghes veignont les burgesses al Parliament, quant le Roy ad summon son Parliament."—*Littleton's Tenures, chap. 10, sect. 161*

"The appellation of burgh never occurs but as signifying an ancient fortress; for instance, a city, castle, town, trench, or rampire. Nor is there any other appellation for city, among our ancient Saxons or modern Germans."—*Spelman's Icenia.*

station on the hills adjoining to the town. This derivation is, however, evidently wrong; as there can be no doubt it had acquired its present cognomen, long before that period.* CHAP.

The origin of the name of this town, may be traced to an early period of the Anglo-Saxon establishment, and probably originated with the manners and customs of that people. In an early period of the Saxon heptarchy, a tribe, under the denomination of the Ganii, was fixed at Gainsburgh and the neighbourhood. As this was their principal town, and the residence of the earle or aldermen, it would consequently be termed, in the language of the times, the burgh or city of the Ganii, or Ganii-burgh, from whence the transition is easy to Gainsburgh, its present appellation.†

During the heptarchy, Gainsburgh formed sometimes a part of the kingdom of Northumberland, but was generally comprehended within that of Mercia. Being a frontier town, it was exposed to frequent assaults, against which the Trent was but a feeble barrier..

It does not seem to have made any great advance in political importance; for, although the residence of a Mercian chief, its name hardly ever occurs in the transactions of that era, except when Alfred married Elswith, daughter of Ethelred, surnamed Muchel,‡ the Great, an earl of the Mercians, who appears to have been a nobleman of considerable consequence, being married to Edburg, a lady of the blood-royal of Mercia. From this circumstance, Mr. Stork is led to suppose Gainsburgh had arisen to some degree of eminence; but there are no documents in existence, from whence to deduce any account of its appearance or extent at that time.

During the troubles in which the country was involved, shortly afterwards, the monuments of our Saxon ancestors must have been demolished; for we have no record of even the site of the residence of so considerable a Saxon chief.

Danish Invasion.

The inroads of the Danish invaders into this country, which commenced about a century before the birth of Alfred, gave an importance to the possession of Gainsburgh, which it had not before possessed.

Landing of Sweyne.

In 1013, Sweyne brought his vessels up the Trent, and landed his forces at this town; at which period, so great was the terror of his name, that Northumberland and the whole of Lindsey, submitted to his dominion; so that, as Speed observes, "he reigned sole King over all the North, from Watling-Street; and exacted pledges from them, to secure their obedience."

From Gainsburgh, where Canute was left in charge of the vessels, Sweyne proceeded to London and the southern parts of England, continuing a system of plunder and rapine.

The cruel exactions of this marauder were, however, of short duration, as he died early in the following year, on the 3d of February. The cause of his death has been differently reported; but it is most probable that he fell a sacrifice to the passion of some of his own officers, whom he might have offended during the licence and jollity common in a Danish carousal. Historians also differ as to the place where this event happened. Some stating it to have been at Thetford, as he was returning from London; whilst others, with more probability, fix it at Gainsburgh; which is also agreeable to tradition.§ The body was conveyed to York for interment, and deposited in the Cathedral.

* Wharlton's Minute Account of Gainsburgh. † Stork's Gainsburgh, p. 25. ‡ Speed's Historie of Great Britain, p. 333.

§ The spot where this event occurred, is, however, not exactly settled. According to Wharlton, it took place at the Pillared House, an old building at the south end of the town; while others believe it to have happened in the Old Hall, or in a field

BOOK IV.

The death of Sweyne did not relieve the English from the ravages of the Danes. Canute who was then at Gainsburgh, with the main body of his countrymen, took every means in his power to secure the advantages his father had obtained, and by ingratiating himself amongst the inhabitants of the division of Lindsey, who rendered him every assistance, and a large supply both of men and horse, secured a considerable body in his favour.

Seizing with avidity, the favourable crisis caused by the death of Sweyne, and the consequent confusion among the Danes, the English lost no time in taking measures for their total expulsion. For this purpose, they invited Ethelred to return from Normandy, to which place he had retired in the preceding year. This Prince lost no time in accepting the invitation, and landing in England in the following Lent, collected his forces with the utmost expedition, and suddenly attacking the Danes, before they were sufficiently provided for their defence, compelled Canute to abandon Gainsburgh, and take to his ships, leaving the Lindissians at his mercy. Exasperated at the attachment they had shewn to his enemies, Ethelred took a severe revenge upon them, carrying fire and sword through the entire province. Gainsburgh, being the head-quarters of the Danes, would, no doubt, share the full measure of his hatred; and, probably, what former ravagers might have spared of the Saxon arts fell before the unrelenting cruelty of Ethelred, and the zeal of his troops.

Lindsey ravaged.

From the period of the retreat of the Danes, Gainsburgh does not stand out very prominently in historical notice. The importance of its situation to these invaders, and the consequent establishment of a camp in the neighbourhood, would, no doubt, increase it very considerably: but their retreat, and the plunder of Lindsey, by Ethelred, probably gave Gainsburgh such a shock as it would not speedily recover from. The unsettled state of the country, from the subsequent attacks by the Danes, and the rapacity of the Normans, when they obtained possession of England, must necessarily have impeded its increase; and we have decisive evidence to prove, that between the reigns of Edward the Confessor, and the collections for Domesday book, a space of only about twenty years, Gainsburgh declined fully one half; having been taxed in the former reign six pounds, and in the latter being only able to pay three.*

Fortifications.

At the period of the settlement of the Danes, Gainsburgh was probably sheltered from sudden attacks, by some sort of fortification or entrenchment. A camp, of which an account will be found in another chapter of this work, occupied a commanding situation to the north-east of the town, and would be a sufficient defence in that quarter. The town appears also to have been completely inclosed, by means of a wide ditch, communicating at each end of the town with the Trent, and which might be readily filled with water. This defence, of which there are still some remains, though it is directed to a different purpose, that of a common sewer, "appears to have been cut just under what is now known as the Pillar'd House, and to have run nearly east about 200 yards. From thence it made a sudden turn to

a little behind it, now occupied as a ropery; principally, from the circumstance of several Danish coins and pieces of armour having been found there. About thirty years ago, a small bronze figure was dug up, which, from the description given of it, was probably a Lar, or figure of Mars.

* Stark's Gainsburgh.

the north, along the back part of the town, until it joined a similar branch immediately behind the old hall, below which it again communicated with the Trent. Over this ditch, there is reason to think there were two passages or gates, probably at the opposite extremities of the town; the traditionary recollection of one of which, is still preserved in the name of Tinker's or Beggar's Bridge, which crossed this ditch at the bottom of the Great Church-Lane." CHAP. I.

If this conjecture be correct, says Mr. Stork, and, from the want of all documents of that early period, it would be presumptuous to arrogate certainty, Gainsburgh has not very greatly increased in size; except that there was then, and until within the last century, only one range of houses fronting the Trent, occupying the east side of the principal street, from the Chapel-Staith to the south end of the town. There might, perhaps, be some particular houses on the opposite side; probably built on the sites of what were formerly called White-Hall and Cobb's-Hall; though these are evidently too recent to be considered as Danish buildings. Chapel-Staith, however, there is no doubt, derived its name from a chapel and burying-ground belonging to the Danes; part of which is still standing, though now occupied for a very different purpose. The chapel forms part of the Angel Inn public-house. In making some alterations, several years since, in one part of this house, a coffin in a very perfect state was discovered, but not disturbed; and, in paving the Chapel-Staith, the bodies of many Danes were found.*

The information which Domesday gives, respecting the different places of the kingdom, is very limited; still it affords sufficient data, from whence may be deduced some knowledge of the probable state and population of the kingdom, at that early period. Domesday Book.

The following extract contains all that is mentioned relative to Gainsburgh:†

LAND OF GEOFFRY DE WIRCE.—Manor.—In Gainesburg, Ledwin had eight carucates‡

* "At the south end of the town of Gainsburgh, there be many Danes buried close to the Chapel that stands by the banks of the Trent."—*Topographer.*

† Bawdwen, p. 000, 4to. Doncaster, 1809.

‡ The quantity of land contained in a carucate, has much puzzled antiquarians. By Hearne, a carucate and oxgang are considered as synonimous; but, from what is stated in giving an account of Crowle, it is evident the oxgang, at least in this county, can only be considered as a proportionate part. "In Crule, Alwin had one oxgang less than six carucates of land to be taxed." And Millar, in his History of Doncaster, gives an extract from the pleas before the King, temp. Ed. I. by which the oxgang is ascertained then to have contained eight acres. Thoroton supposes the carucate and hide to be equal, and to contain one hundred acres, six score to the hundred; but more or less, according to the lightness or stiffness of the soil. Spelman says, the carucate is that portion of land set out for one plough; but this conjecture can hardly be reconciled to the statement above given of the land in Gainsburgh, as it appears there were twenty ploughs, and only eight carucates of land. In the account of Corringham, in this same county, it is said that "the King had one carucate, four sokemen, and one bordar, with two ploughs," and, in the whole of the parish, three carucates only are mentioned, while there are five ploughs and a half specified. Indeed it would seem that the quantity of land contained in the carucate, was not precisely defined. Temp. Rich. I. it was estimated sometimes at sixty, and at others at an hundred acres; while in that of Edw. I. it was reckoned at an hundred and eighty. It is by no means improbable that this last was nearly the quantity at which the carucate was reckoned, in the above account of Gainsburgh; as, by this admeasurement, the whole arable land, meadow, and coppice wood, would amount to about one thousand five hundred and sixty acres, leaving about one thousand five hundred acres for waste and unproductive land.

of land to be taxed. Land to twelve ploughs. Rainald, a vassal of Geoffry's, has there two ploughs, and twelve sokemen,* with four carucates of this land, and four villanes† with six ploughs, and forty acres of meadow, and eighty acres of coppice wood. Value, in King Edward's time, six pounds, now three. Tallaged at twenty shillings.

Earl of Pembroke's Charter

In the reign of Edward II, Aymer, or de Valence,‡ Earl of Pembroke, granted to the burgesses of Gainsburgh, a right of pasturage, upon certain parts of his lands, there mentioned; and also enabled them and their heirs, to have a "free mercatory guilda, free of toll and stallage."§

This right of pasturage appears, afterwards, to have been a subject of much dispute between some of the subsequent lords of the manor and the burgesses, previous to the inclosure of the waste lands. Since that event, all cause of complaint has been done away with.

At this distance of time it is almost impossible to ascertain with any precision, in what manner the government of the town was then conducted; though it is probable, that the whole affairs of the parish, passed under the cognizance of the Leet Jury, as there are several entries made in the jury-book, in the early part of the seventeenth century, of the different officers of the town having passed their accounts before it, and being discharged.

Vestry.

The earliest mention made of an approach to something like a regular system, appears in an entry in the jury book, dated 1635, by which fifteen persons were nominated to hold a vestry, "for the better ordering of the said towne," &c.‖

* "Sokemen, according to Spelman, such as were free, and held of the King; but the most general sort, which those here mentioned, appear to have been, were, by the Saxons, called *less thanes*; by the Danes, *young men*, and now *yeomen*, being free of blood, and fit for honourable service.

† The situation of this class of men, amongst our ancestors, appears to have been very depressed, and not much different from that of the serfs, at the present time, in Russia. They were either *villanes regardant*, annexed to the manor and soil; or else they were *villanes in gross*, or at large, annexed to the person of the lord, and transferable from one owner to another. All their services were base and uncertain, both in time and quantity; and they could have no property, either in goods or lands, but at the mere will of the lord, who could seize the whole to his own use. The children were also in the same condition as the parent, and equally bound to the soil. The contentions between the houses of York and Lancaster, put an end to this cruel state; and, by the necessity under which each lord laboured, for his own security, to take one side or another, and to support his party with his whole force, villanes were emancipated in prodigious numbers, in order to become soldiers. Thus a great evil produced ultimate good, and raised, in the lower ranks of society, a spirit of emulation and industry, which has contributed greatly to the power and prosperity of the country.

‡ This nobleman appears to have been a zealous supporter of Edw. II. during the disputes between that monarch and his barons, in consequence of the conduct of the Spencers; for when the Mortimers were compelled to retreat, after their attempt upon Wales, towards the north; "or they myght passe farre vpon theyr journay, they were encounteryd of Syr Aymer de Valence, erle of Pembroke, with the Spencers and other of the Kynge's hoost, upon the xii daye of Marche [1320], and of them ouersette and constrayned to fle, and so yoode, in processe of tyme, to Poutfret."—*Fabian's Chron.*

§ This charter is printed at length in Stork's History, p. 55.

‖ 5º die Aprilis, Ann. Dom. 1635. Mem.—That the daye and yeare above written, att a Meeting then made by the greater p^te of the better sort of the Inhabitants of the Towne of Ganesb^o, upon a former warning given for their meeting in

How long this "select vestry" continued in the office assigned to them, does not appear; nor is there, says Mr. Stork, any notice in the jury book, further than the appointment, by which it can be ascertained that they performed any part of their engagement. Indeed, it is more than probable, that this attempt to form a sort of nominal magistracy, proved abortive in the outset; for, in the jury book mentioned above, dated May, 1637, there is an entry made of the jury having met and passed the accounts of two constables, two collectors of the poor, and three churchwardens; which would lead to the supposition, that the management of parish affairs had again reverted to its former channel.* CHAP. I.

Disputes between the Crown and the Parliament soon after probably prevented any further attempt to establish a proper system of magistracy, otherwise, it is hardly probable, that a town of so much importance as Gainsburgh, should, when charters for similar purposes, were so readily bestowed, have been denied this favour; especially, as it is evident from the nomination made in 1635, that the want of some resident magistracy, by which the good government and prosperity of the town might be preserved and increased, was severely felt by that class of men, who had the best opportunity of observing the evils under which the town laboured on this account.

Charter confirmed.

In 1637, a confirmation of De Valence's Charter for holding two marts, &c. was obtained, probably through the exertions of the persons appointed by the town, to conduct its internal affairs; and, it is not unlikely, that they considered this as a necessary step towards obtaining a more extensive charter, for giving to the town all the rights, privileges, and immunities of a corporation.

Civil Wars.

Until the period of the civil wars, hardly any mention again occurs of Gainsburgh, in the history of the country.

Before the foundation of Hull, by Edward, Gainsburgh was the principal, and almost the only sea-port town in this part of the country; and although after this period it descended to a secondary rank, still, for a considerable time, it maintained a rivalship with that more fortunate place.

In 1643, this town is enumerated amongst those places which were ordered by the King to contribute their proportion towards providing vessels of war, for the defence of the country.†

the Chansell of the Church of Ganesburgh aforesaid, itt is agreed, that from henceforth there shall be fifteen of the better sorte of the Inhabitants of the said Towne, chosen, that shall hold a Vestrie upon all occasion, for the better orderinge of the said Towne, and for assessing and setting of leyes and taxes, which in any manner shall hereafter concern the said Towne, either for the Church, Poore, or any otherwise whatever; and for that purpose, those whose names are here under-written, at the Meetinge aforesaid weare and are elected, nominated and appointed, and thereunto gave their own consent. videl t Willoughby Hickman, Esq. Thomas Saunderson, Esq. Minister of Ganesb°, William Farye, Gent., Simon Patricke, John Jacke, William Browne, William Godfrey, Jun., and eight other persons, whose names are inserted at length in the original entry.—*Stork's Gainsburgh*, p. 62.

* Hist. of Gainsburgh.

† "The city of York, Kingston-upon-Hull, Beverley, Lincoln, Boston, Grimsby Magna, Barton-upon-Humber, Spalding, Wainfleet, and Gainsburgh, one ship of 800 tons, 260 men at least, with double tackle, munition, wages, and victuals." *Swinden's History of Yarmouth, p. 511.*

"This illegal tax, for in no other light can it be considered, first imposed in 1635, upon maratime towns, under the pretence of the kingdom being in danger, on account of the league lately concluded between France and the low countries, was a principal cause of the dispute that ensued between the Crown and the Parliament; and its imposition upon the whole kingdom, raised such a spirit of opposition among the people, which no subsequent effort of Charles could possibly overcome."*

It would lead us into too extensive a field, to notice the whole of the events which took place in this contest between the Crown and the Parliament; nor, indeed, can such be expected, within the limited extent to which this work must necessarily be confined. A short detail of the particular events which took place in the neighbourhood of Gainsburgh, is all that is necessary to elucidate its history, and to shew the part which it took at this eventful era.

Taken possession of for the King.

Charles placed this town under the government of the Earl of Kingston, at a very early period of the disputes between him and the Commons. In June,† 1643, Lord Willoughby, of Parham, who had an estate in the neighbourhood, and who was a zealous partisan on the side of the Parliament, made a successful attempt to obtain possession of the town, and took the governor prisoner. Understanding, however, that the Duke of Newcastle was then in his progress from York, to secure Gainsburgh to the King, Lord Willoughby sent off Lord Kingston in a boat to Hull; he being a prisoner of too much consequence to the Parliament, to be trusted in such an insecure situation. Unfortunately, the boat was seen by a party of the forces, advancing under the Duke of Newcastle, commanded by a lieutenant, "who being desirous to rescue the Earl of Kingston, and making some shots with their regiment pieces, to stop the pinnace, unfortunately slew both him and one of his servants."‡

The triumph of the Parliamentary forces, was but very short; nor, probably, were they sufficiently strong to attempt much resistance to the Duke's forces, although Oliver Cromwell had lately arrived with an additional body of troops from Lincoln, and a supply of provisions.

Royal party defeated.

A party of horse, detached by the Duke of Newcastle to invest the town, was defeated by Cromwell, who even pursued them in sight of the main body, which he did not suppose to be so near. As he was not in a condition to face this army, he retreated in good order, and retired to a greater distance: but here he was not allowed long to remain, as he was compelled precipitately to retreat, in consequence of an attack made upon him by the Duke of Newcastle.§

According to the Duchess of Newcastle's account, the Duke "drawing near the mentioned towne of Gainsborough, there appeared, on the top of the hill above the towne, some of the enemy's horse, drawn up in a body; whereupon, he immediately sent a party of his horse to view them, who no sooner came within their sight, but they retreated fairly, so long as they could well endure; but the pursuit of my lord's horse, caused them presently to break their ranks, and fall to their heels, when most of them escaped and fled to Lincoln, another of their garrisons.

* Stork. † Rapin's History of England, folio, vol. 2, p. 707.

‡ Life of Wm. Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle, by his wife Margaret, Duchess of Newcastle, folio, London, 1667, p. 35.

§ Stork, p. 77.

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"Hereupon, my Lord summoned the town of Gainsborough: but the governor thereof refusing to yield, caused my lord to plant his cannon, and draw up his army on the mentioned hill; and having played some little time upon the towne, put the enemy into such terror, that the governor sent out and offered the surrender of the towne upon fair terms, which my lord thought fit rather to embrace than take it by force."*

Duke of Newcastle summons the Town.

An unfortunate circumstance appears to have taken place, in consequence of this capitulation, caused by the careless manner in which the terms were complied with. According to agreement, the arms and also the keys of the town were to have been delivered up to the Duke of Newcastle: but instead of this, the arms were thrown carelessly down, and the gates set wide open. All restraint being, by this means, removed from the prisoners, who were, probably, part of the force which had been under the command of the Earl of Kingston, and who might be irritated at the conduct of the townsmen, when they had been attacked by Lord Willoughby, as well as at the death of their leader, they began to plunder the inhabitants. The soldiers of the Duke of Newcastle's army, seeing the prisoners beginning to plunder, notwithstanding every attempt to prevent them, immediately joined in the pillage, which continued for a considerable time.†

The Town Plundered.

In June, 1644, a considerable fight took place in the neighbourhood, between the troops under Cromwell, and the force under the command of General Cavendish, in which the latter was completely routed, and Cavendish slain. The following is Cromwell's account of this engagement, in which, it would appear, he shewed considerable courage, and no little military skill:—

Skirmish near the Town.

"About a mile and a half from the town, (Gainsburgh,) we met the forlorn of the enemy, and drove a troop of their dragoons back upon their main body. We advanced and came to the bottom of a steep hill, which we could not get up, but by some tracts, and the body of the enemy endeavoured to hinder us; but we prevailed and gained the top of it. A great body of the enemy's horse faced us there, at about a musket shot distance, and a good reserve of a full regiment of horse behind it.

"We did what we could to put our men in good order, and the enemy marched towards us to prevent it, and take us at disadvantage; but in such order as we were, we charged their main body, I having the right wing. We came up horse to horse, where we disputed a great while with our swords and pistols, all keeping close order. At last, the enemy shrinking a little, our men soon perceived it, pressed in upon them, and routed their whole body, some flying on the one side, and some on the other of the enemy's reserve. Our men pursued them with good execution, about six miles.

"I perceiving the reserve still unbroken, kept back my Major, Whalley, from the pursuit, and, with my own troop, and two troops more of my regiment, we got into a body In this reserve was General Cavendish, (brother to the Earl of Newcastle,) who one while faced me, another faced four of the Lincoln troops, which were all of ours that engaged the reserve, the rest being in pursuit of those who fled.

* Life of the Duke of Newcastle, *Ibid.*

† In paving the Lord-Street, and making a drain there, considerable numbers of dead bodies were found, which appeared to have been promiscuously interred, as if of persons who had fallen in battle. It is not improbable but that this event may be referred to the period of this pillage of the town.—*Stark.*

BOOK IV. "General Cavendish charged the Lincolneers and routed them; immediately I fell on his rear with my three troops, which did so astonish him, that he gave over the chace, and would have delivered himself from me. I pressing on, forced him down a hill, and, below it, drove the general and some of his soldiers into a quagmire, were my Captain General slew him with a thrust under his short ribs. The rest of the body was totally routed, not one man staying in the place.*"

From this time the royalist party in this county began to decline; and the issue of the unfortunate battle of Marston-Moor, near York, almost put the finishing stroke to the futile hope of this unfortunate and misguided monarch, of compelling the House of Commons to submit to his authority.

On the occasion of the Earl of Manchester passing through Gainsburgh with his army, towards York, perhaps in 1644, an assessment of £89. was imposed upon the town, by the committee of Lincoln.

In 1652, an exemplification was obtained, at the request of William Hickman, Esq. lord of the manor, of a Charter, formerly granted to John Talbot, by Henry III. and also of that granted to the Earl of Pembroke, by Richard II. for having free warren, holding a fair for three days, and for the return of writs, in the manor of Gainsburgh.

During the rebellion in 1745, it is said that a casket of money, designed to be sent to meet the young Pretender at Derby, was stopped at a wharf here, the loss of which caused the retreat of himself and unfortunate followers.† The truth, however, of this story, is rather doubtful; "at least," says the historian of Gainsburgh, "there is no memorandum relating to the circumstance, to be found amongst the books of the wharfingers, (now Goodger and Furley,) where it is supposed to have taken place, and it is hardly likely that so extraordinary an occurrence should have passed entirely unnoticed."

Floods. The low situation of Gainsburgh, and its neighbourhood to the Trent, renders it peculiarly liable to floods, which are caused by large rains, or sudden thaws, after heavy falls of snow in the hilly countries of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, as the whole mass of waters descending from thence, find a passage to the sea only by this river. In some cases these floods are very destructive, great part of the town being laid under water, so that the only method of communication with the inhabitants of those parts, is by means of boats, which are employed sometimes in supplying provisions, &c.

In 1770, an extraordinary large flood occurred, an account of which is given below;‡ and in 1795, 1809, and 1812.

* Cromwell's Account of the Skirmish near Gainsbro', fought between him and General Cavendish, in his way to York, immediately before the battle of Marston Moor, from a MS. in the possession of Robert Duckle, Esq.

† Oulton's Itinerary, Art. Gainsburgh.

‡ "Nov. 20.—The largest flood in the memory of man, owing to a bank at Laneham and Torksey breaking, which entirely laid the country under water for many miles—it ran over the lock at Torksey—every family at Torksey, Saxelby, and a number of other places, were obliged to live in their chambers, and many of the inhabitants quitted their houses. At Lincoln, every family by the water-side, from Brayford-Head to Thorne-Bridge, was obliged to do the same; and the current was so very violent, that the High and Thorne-Bridges were expected to be carried away. The water was as violent at the Gout-

In the year 1791, a new act was obtained for more effectually improving the streets, lanes, and public passages, in this town, and for laying a duty upon all coals and lime brought to the town to be sold, and, by which, certain trustees were appointed to carry the purposes of the act into execution. CHAP. I.

Manor.

From an observation which occurs, in giving an account of Gainsburgh, in Domesday book, it is evident that no alteration had taken place, in its territorial boundary, from the time of Edward the Confessor; although it is acknowledged to have considerably decreased in value, in the former reign, being reckoned to yield six pounds, and, in the latter, only three. This observation, which is not confined to Gainsburgh, but is common throughout the whole account of the different places mentioned, shews that whatever alterations may have been made by William in the tenure, none whatever took place in the extent and boundaries of manors, the original establishment of which, must consequently be referred to an earlier period, at least to that of Edward the Confessor.

Whatever may have been the ancient state of the manor, it is to the period of the conquest that our first knowledge of its possessors must be referred. At that time, in order to reward his followers, and to secure their fidelity, William enfeoffed them of great estates or lordships, to be held by the service of a certain number of knights, reserving no very trifling portion to the crown. This manor, along with several other valuable possessions, was conferred upon Geoffry de Wirce; but, for what service, does not appear. Afterwards, when it was conferred by Stephen upon William de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, it was granted to him, to hold in the same manner, and as "freely as the king himself had held it." In the early part of Stephen's reign, Nigell de Mowbray, enfeoffed William Talbot, in two knight's fees, in Gainsburgh: but whether this was considered as the whole service which the holder of the manor was bound to perform, cannot be ascertained.

The first manorial lord after the conquest, Geoffry de Wirce, had considerable possessions in this county, as well as in other parts of the kingdom. Besides the manor of Gainsburgh, he obtained from William Blyborough, Somerby, Lolethorp, (perhaps Southorp,) Epworth, Owston, Haxey, Lound, Beltoft, Belton, Althorpe, and Crowle. From Geoffry de Wirce, the manor of Gainsburgh, as well as most of his other possessions, passed to

Nigellus d'Albaneis, upon whom they were conferred by Henry I. together with the lands of Roger de Mowbray, or Molbrai, in the county of Northumberland. He was succeeded by his son, who took the name of Mowbray. How long the manor of Gainsburgh was held by this baron, is not certain; but Stephen granted it, as well as a castle here, to

Bridges; numbers of families were obliged to quit their houses; the water ran over the turnpike, on both sides of the bridges, so that there was no passing for foot people.

"The bank betwixt Morton and Walkerith, near Gainsburgh, broke in two places; as likewise did Vikars-Dyke, near Stockwith, which laid all that country, the Isle of Axholme, and all the levels to Thorne, in Yorkshire, under water, and great quantities of cattle, &c. were drowned. There was no passing on the turnpike-road from Gainsburgh, for ten or twelve days after.—All business was at a stand, as no vessels could get through Saxelby-Bridge for a week after. The water was eleven inches higher at Thorne-Bridge, than it was in the great midsummer flood, though the river, betwixt High and Thorne-Bridges, was deepened eighteen inches, in September 1770.—Several boats, from Torksey and Saxelby, came to Lincoln for provisions."—*Stork*, p. 98.

BOOK IV.

William de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln.

Robert Talbot, in the seventh year of the reign of John, is mentioned as lord of the manor of Gainsburgh.—By what means he obtained it, does not appear; but he was in the King's service, in Ireland, along with Hugh de Lacy, &c. After his death it passed to his eldest son,

William Talbot, who was *Dom. Man. de Dotata* in Gainsberg, and gave lands in Sledmore to the church of Beverley. As he lived and died in Normandy, the manor seems to have vested in his next brother,

John Talbot de Thorpe Willoughby juxta Selby, but it does not appear to have remained much longer in this family, as

William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, held it temp. Edw. I.*

In the 17th of Edw. II. the latter baron obtained the right of returning writs for the manor of Gainsburgh, and, also, for that of Dunham, Nottinghamshire, which was also his property. About the same time, also, he granted to the burgesses of Gainsburgh, a right of pasturage upon certain parts of his waste lands.

De Valence dying without issue, this property fell to his second sister, who married John Comyn, of Badzenoch.†

David, Earl of Athol, married the daughter of John Comyn, through whom he obtained large possessions in England, and, amongst the rest, the manor of Gainsburgh. He died in 1335, and was succeeded by his son. The manor of Gainsburgh passing through this family and that of Percy and Burgh, until 1596, when lord Burgh sold it to William Hickman, of London, Esq. who was knighted by James I. at Belvoir Castle, on his progress through the country to London. In the possession of this family, the manor of Gainsburgh has ever since remained.

Courts. The Court Leet‡ and View of Frankpledge and Great Court Baron, are so closely connected with the good government of the town, that an account of their origin and privileges, is necessary towards enabling us to form an opinion as to the present state of the borough.

* Gough's Camden's Britannia, v. ii. p. 339.

† Oulton's Itinerary, Art. Gainsburgh.

‡ The word Leet seems to be derived from the Saxon leoð, plebs, and means the Folkmote, in contradistinction to the Halmote, or Court Baron, which consisted of the free tenants only; whereas, the Leet required the attendants of all the resiants, and, consequently, was much more extensive.

The Leet is the most ancient court in the kingdom, and there is little doubt but that it existed during the Saxon era, although no mention is to be found made of it, prior to 27 Edw. III. except in the Charter of William the Conqueror, for the foundation of Battle Abbey. It is supposed, however, that before the conquest, and probably for some time afterwards, this court was, if not the sole, at least the most usual dispensary of criminal justice in the kingdom; and, indeed, it is still a court of record for the cognizance of criminal matters or pleas of the crown, which necessarily belongs to the King, though the Lord of the Manor is, by the grant of the manor, entitled to the profits, consisting of the essoign pence, fines, and amerciaments.

The Court Leet is a court of record, having the same jurisdiction, within a particular precinct, which the Sheriff's Torn hath in the county. This court is not necessarily appendant to a manor, like a Court Baron, but is derived from the Sheriff's Torn: being a grant from the King, to certain lords, for ease of their tenants and resiants, within their manors, that they may administer justice to them, in their manors.—*Stork's Gainsburgh.*

The Court Baron is now held along with the Leet Jury, which, in Gainsburgh manor, is summoned twice a year, within a month after Easter, and a month after Michaelmas; and although in some manors, the jurors continue in office during the whole year, yet here they are usually discharged on the same day, except in particular cases, when they have been adjourned to some subsequent period.

The jurisdiction and power which this court exercised were considerable.

Election of Officers.

In 1650, the several officers were as follow, all of whom are still appointed by the jury, except in the case of the Searchers and Sealers of Leather, instead of whom persons are now appointed under the excise laws:—

Two constables, afterwards called burgess and foreign constable, one burgess bailiff, one burgrave, one ale-taster, two frankpledges, two searchers of the market, two searchers and sealers of leather, two scavengers.

The burgess constable is the first civil officer in the borough, and is generally elected, as well as the foreign or deputy constable, at the Michaelmas Jury-meeting. Their duty is to watch over the peace of the town, and to provide for its security: formerly, however, it appears to have been more extensive, as will be seen from the following memorandum:—

"24 Oct. 1670. It is agreed that the Constables of Gainsburgh, from time to time, in future, shall doe their duties; and, in case they neglect, and more especially neglect in not repairing the Lord's-Stayth, Chappell-Stayth, y^e part of the Church-Lane, Oliver-Bridge, Tinker-Bridge, the pump in the Market-Place, Lea-Rayles, (Moor-Gate and the Fence,) and all other places belonginge unto the towne of Gainsburgh, that they shall be amerced 39s."

And, in a subsequent one, dated 1733, Ap. 25. "The Constables to poste and raile the footway from Fr. Barber's Close, at towne end, [afterwards said to be from Tinker's-Bridge,] to the turnpike over against ship-yard."

CHAPTER II.

SURVEY OF THE TOWN AND PARISH OF GAINSBURGH.

Situation

THE town of Gainsburgh is pleasantly situated upon the eastern bank of the Trent, 18 miles north west from Lincoln, and [illegible] from London. It is built somewhat in the form of a cross, the street from the bridge to the Market-Place forming the pillar, the transverse being formed by the [illegible] and the Lord's-Street, and the apex of the cross by the Great Church-Lane. The town [illegible] along the bank of the Trent about a mile and a quarter, and is about a [illegible] mile in breadth, at the broadest part. Leland's account of this place is as follows: [illegible] is a good market town, and is 12 miles from Lincoln. I saw no things much [illegible] but the parish church where lieth richly buried Sir Thomas Boro, Knight of the [illegible] and Ana de Botreaux his wife. He died 1408, and was grandfather to the Lord Boro [illegible], and made the most of the motid manor place by the west end of the church yard [illegible] Lord Borow's father lies in the choir. In the same church lies D. Edmundus Co[illegible] who died 1322, that had a great motid manor place called *Thonak*, in a wood a mile [illegible] from Gainesborough. It longeth yet to the Cornewailes.

Leland's Account

"There is an old chapel of [illegible] south part of Gainesborough town, where they of the town say that many [illegible] also a chapel of wood on Trent side by S. in Gainesborow, now desolated. The [illegible] Gainsborow longing to the Lords Borow."*

Population

Gainsburgh is very closely [illegible] considering the small extent of ground which it covers, contains a very dense p[illegible]. According to the account taken in 1801, it contained 1064 houses; but between [illegible] period and 1811, the number had considerably increased, there being then 1159 houses, an increase of about one-tenth. The population had increased to an equal extent, as, according to the census in 1801, there were 4506 inhabitants, while in 1811, the number amounted to 5172. The following statement of the population of the parish of Gainsburgh in 1821, is subjoined.

	Males	Females.	Total
The town of Gainsburgh	2767	3126	5893
The hamlet of Morton	266	314	580
The hamlet of East Stockwith	105	119	224
The hamlet of Walkerith	35	32	67
Total	3173	3591	6761

* Itin i. 36.



The annual value of the real property, as assessed for the property tax in April, 1815, amounted to £18,903.

Commerce.

Gainsburgh is a river-port of considerable consequence, being accessible to vessels of sufficient size to navigate the sea, and serving as a port of export and import for this part of the country, participating with Hull in the Baltic trade. From its situation on the banks of the Trent, it possesses a ready communication with the internal parts of the country, and previous to the opening of the Grand Junction Canal, the whole of the ware from the Staffordshire potteries, besides the cast iron from Derbyshire, intended for the London and foreign markets, were shipped from hence. Since that event, a considerable alteration has taken place in the trade of the town, as will in some measure be apparent from the following statement of the principal articles shipped from hence, and passed at the Custom-House, during the first quarter of the year 1799, and the last quarter of 1816 :—

	From Jan. 1st. to March 30th, 1799.	From Oct. 1st. to Dec. 31st. 1816.
Plaster	40 tons.	407 tons.
Nails	4316 bags.	1370 bags.
Pig, bar, sheet, and cast-iron	557½ tons.	1426 tons.
Ale	1075 gallons.	6163 gallons
Cheese	325 tons.	[illegible] tons
Oats	1060 quarters.	2071 quarters.
Salt	9610 bushels.	16156 bushels.
Earthenware	2866 crates, 83 hds.	510 crates, 54 hds
Shot	106½ tons.	518 tons.
Flour	70 sacks.	1350 qrs. of wheat.
Red-Lead	200 tons.	

It must be noticed, that the statement here presented, only refers to the goods which are shipped from hence, and passed at the Custom-House; constituting about a fourth part of the goods passing through the town. From it, however, and other statements, of the number of vessels employed, there is great reason to suppose that the whole of the articles thus forwarded, may amount to about 20,000 tons annually. Besides the vessels which, during the year 1816, have been regularly entered at the Custom-House, a great number of sloops and small craft were employed in the inland navigation, upon the Trent and the Ouse, and to Hull, the tonnage of which may be reckoned at fully 60,000 tons.*

From the convenient situation of Gainsburgh, a considerable deal of business is done in the Baltic trade, particularly in the crushing of linseed, in which several mills, of considerable power, are constantly engaged. It also possesses every convenience for ship-building, for which it has long been well known. From one yard in this town, vessels of from six to eight hundred tons burden have been frequently slipped ; and even in the present depressed state of trade, no inconsiderable quantity of business is still done in that branch.

Besides the business upon the Trent, the introduction of steam-engines, as a means of propelling vessels, has been the cause of establishing a rapid and convenient communication between Gainsburgh and Hull; along the line of the Trent, to Newark and Nottingham, and by the Foss-Dike to Lincoln and Boston.

* Stork's Gainsburgh.

BOOK IV.

Previous to 1814, several sailing packets were employed in conveying passengers, &c. to Hull; but the tediousness of the voyage was a considerable bar to their increase. In that year, however, the first steam vessel was brought into the Trent; and although, in the first instance, its establishment met with considerable opposition, principally from the supposed hazard attending the employment of steam, yet this soon yielded, as the ease, safety, and convenience of the communication began to be apparent. Since that time, several vessels have been built here: two of which, of about sixteen horse power, are daily employed between this port and Hull, in the conveyance of passengers and parcels, with a celerity and expedition that would, some fifty years since, have been thought totally impossible. The usual time occupied in the passage to Hull, a distance of fifty-six miles, is about five hours: but cases have frequently occurred, of the passage being made in little more than three hours.

River Trent.

Before leaving this branch of our subject, some account should be given of—"The christal Trent, for fords and fish renowned," the course of which passes the town, and is of so much importance to its prosperity.

The Trent rises in the high lands of Staffordshire, and passing through Derbyshire, enters Nottinghamshire on the south-west point, passes Newark to Lincolnshire, forming the boundary on the north-west side of the county, from the village of North Clifton to that of Stockwith, whence, constituting the eastern boundary of the Isle of Axeholme, it flows to Aldborough, opposite to which it receives the Dun, and a little below being joined by the Ouse, both mingle their waters with the Humber. The Trent, in its course, runs nearly 200 miles, and communicates by canal navigation, with all the principal rivers in the south part of the kingdom.

"The spring tides in the Trent, when the river is in its usual state, flow from two and a half to three hours, and ebb from nine hours to nine hours and a half. The neap tides flow from three hours and a half to four hours, and ebb from eight hours to eight hours and a half. When the Trent is in its usual state, the high water of spring tides, at Keadby Sluice, rises to the height of eight feet above the general surface of the low lands in the Chase of Hatfield; but when the river is flooded, the high water rises to the height of eleven feet above the surface. Low water of a spring tide in the Trent, when the river is in its ordinary state, lies about five feet and a half under the general surface; but when the river is flooded, it is only about three feet under the general surface. The ordinary neap tides in the Trent, when unaffected by the land freshes, rise about four feet above the surface of the low lands; and when the land freshes are in the Trent, they rise more than seven feet above such surface. The low water, in the former case, is about six feet and a half, and in the latter case, only about three feet under the surface.*

The Eagre.

A curious phenomenon is observed in the Trent, in the neighbourhood of Gainsburgh, called the Eagre or Hygre. At spring tides, the water rises on the surface of the river, to the height of from six to eight feet, and rolls on in a large mass from the mouth of the Trent considerably above the bridge. On account of the obstructions it meets with, however, before its arrival at Gainsburgh, the Eagre is somewhat diminished in size; but a few miles below the town, it has a grand and imposing appearance.

* Mr. Rennie's Report on Drainage of Hatfield Chace, &c. 1813, Jan. from levels taken by J. Thackray, in 1812.

CHAP. II.

Bridge

The numerous inconveniences attendant on a ferry over a river, so variable in its current as the Trent, having been long a subject of complaint and regret, more particularly so to the Nottinghamshire farmers, who were in the habit of attending the weekly market, a few of the principal inhabitants of Gainsburgh, about 1780, entered into a subscription for the purpose of erecting a permanent bridge of stone over the river, at the south end of the town, adjacent to the ferry; and, as a further accommodation to the public, it was determined to combine with this work, the formation of a turnpike-road, from the western extremity of the bridge to the borough of Retford, in Nottinghamshire. In furtherance of these objects, application was made to Parliament, and an act obtained for that purpose, in the Sessions of 1787.

The first stone of the western abutment was laid in October, 1787, and the bridge was opened to the public in the latter end of the year 1790. It cost about £10,000.

It consists of three elliptical arches, the eastern and western ones being of 62 feet span, and the centre arch 70 feet span; the piers and abutments 14 feet thick, at the springing of the arches; the wing-walls extending 39 feet from the abutments; making the total length of the bridge 328 feet.

As it was erected by a company of individuals, a regular toll is, by the act for building the bridge, exacted on passing, similar to what was formerly paid for crossing the ferry. Mr. Stork very justly observes that, "It is much to be lamented that originally it should not have been built at the expence of the two counties of Lincoln and Nottingham, both of which would have been very greatly benefitted by its being a free bridge; and it is still a subject well worth their attention, particularly as it is the only certain passage from the north-western parts of the kingdom into this part of Lincolnshire, without going round by Newark. To the proprietors of lands on the west side of the Trent, the throwing open of the bridge would be particularly beneficial, as the neighbourhood of Gainsburgh would probably induce many persons to establish themselves there."

Church.

At what time a Church was originally built in this town, there are no documents to determine. The tower of the present edifice, which is at the west end, is the only remains of the original building.* It has already out-lived two bodies, and bids fair, from the excellence of its preservation, to maintain an equal period with its present companion. It is a very handsome pointed structure, and probably was erected about the beginning of the 15th century.

In the ringers' chamber, there are several grotesque figures at the abutments as well as at the key-stones of the arches: but these were probably brought from some older building, as they do not correspond with other parts of the structure, the arches being all of the pointed order. The window is tastefully ornamented with stone mullions and tracery; but there is no painted glass remaining. The top, which is about ninety feet high, is surmounted with pinnacles on one of which is a gilt weather vane.†

* There is a saying in this part of Lincolnshire, in reference to the above fact, that

"Gainsborough proud people,
Built a new church to an old steeple."

† Previous to the rebuilding of the Church, there seems also to have been a spire, as in Miege's New State of England, published in 1707, the spire of Louth Church is compared with it, and supposed by some to be as high.

BOOK IV.

Arms and inscriptions in Gainsborough Church, from Gervase Holles's MS.—Brit. Museum.

Tumulus Marmoreus cum effigiebus Alabastrinis Thoma Burgh Militis aureæ Periscelidis & uxoris ejus.

In Fenestra Insulæ Australis.

Empaled. Quarterly B. 3 flowres de lize ermine, a label with 3 files argt.———*Burgh.*

Or, a lion rampant B.———*Percy.*

Or, 3 pallets sa.———*Comyn Comes Atholiæ.*

G. on a chevron or, 3 estoyles sa.———*Cobham of Sterborough.*

Burgh, and his quarterings within the garter.

Empaled. B. 3 flowres de lize ermine.———*Burgh.*

Quarterly. G. 3 waterbougets argt.———*Ros.*

G. a fesse between 2 bars gemells arg. a crescent B. and wheele within arg.

Empaled. B. a chief and 3 chevronels braced in base Or.———*Fitz-Hugh.*

B. 3 flowres de lize ermine.———*Burgh.*

An armee coupee argt lie Or *Vulgo Manfere* }
A falcon volant, ermine collered with a crowne Or } Burghs crest and supporters.

G. 3 greyhoundes cursant arg.

Arg. a saltier sa.

Arg. a maunch sa.

Chequy arg. and sa. a bend G.

Arg. a lyon rampant G. crowned or, a border engrayled sa. bezantee.

In Muro Australi Insulæ Australis.

Tumulus Agnetis filiæ Christopheri Draper Militis Alderman. London. & unius hæer. ejus primæ Conjugis Willielmi Hickeman (postea militis) que obiit 22° Febr. 1599. Elizab. filia Senior Willi. Willughby hær. apparentis Caroli Dni Willughby de Parham uxor secunda.

Empaled. Party per pale endented Arg. and B.———*Hickman.*

Quarterly. Arg. on a fesse G. a mullet of the first, and 2 cuppes or, between 3 annulets of the 2d.———*Draper.*

Ermine on a chief B. 3 lyons rampant or.

Erm. a fesse chequy arg. & sa.

Fenestra Orientalis in Ludo litterario.

Empaled } Arg. a saltier, on a chiefe G. 3 escallops arg.———*Talbois.*
B. 3 flowres de lize ermine.———*Burgh.*

Empaled. Quarterly, Fitz-Hugh, and Marmyon.———*Burgh.*

Empaled } Or, on 2 bars G. 3 waterbougets.———*Willughby.*
B. 3 flowres de lize ermine.———*Burgh.*

Dnus Georgius Talbois me fieri fecit.

Dna Elizab. Fitz-Hugh me fieri fecit.

In the year 1764, a new set of bells was set up in the tower, cast by Lester and Pack, of London, which are esteemed excellent in their tone.

In consequence of the ruinous state of the former Church, the walls, pillars, and arches being so declined from their proper position, as to render it incapable of being repaired, it was thought necessary to be taken down, and a new one erected in its stead. For this pur-

pose, and as the expence would be "too heavy upon many of the parishioners, unless a fund was established, for raising the same by small payments, from an annual tax or duty," it was thought necessary to obtain an act of Parliament, in 1735, to empower certain trustees to raise £2500, by an equal assessment upon all houses, &c. in the parish.

Immediately upon the passing of this act, the trustees proceeded to engage workmen for taking down the old Church, which they began to do in August, 1736;* and the foundations of the new one were laid in October following. But the money they were empowered to levy being found insufficient, the trustees were compelled, in 1740, to apply again to Parliament. By the new act, a duty of 1s. on each chaldron, and 8d. on each ton of coals delivered in the town, was imposed, besides an assessment of 3d. in the pound on houses, &c. in the hamlets of Morton, Walkerith, and Stockwith: but these rates were to cease and determine, as it respected the hamlets, as soon as £1000. with interest and expences, was raised; and the whole was to cease as soon as £1500 was obtained.

By this act, also, the whole sum to be expended in erecting the pews, galleries, altar-piece, &c. was £800.; and "all the galleries, pews, and seats in the said new Church, to be vested in the Trustees and Churchwardens for the time being: to the intent only that they may be empowered to assign and dispose of seats for the use of the inhabitants of Gainsburgh, in such manner as any seven, or more of them, together with the Churchwardens, shall order and direct subject to the approbation of the Bishop for the time being."

The funds thus placed at the disposal of the Trustees, were found nearly sufficient for the purpose: the whole expence of rebuilding the Church, and fitting it up, amounting to £5230. 12s. 8½d. The remainder above the £5000. provided by the two acts above mentioned, was raised from the sale of the old materials, and a benefaction of £15. from a person unknown, by the hands of Dr. Wade, then Vicar of the parish, and £100. from Mrs. Margaret Hickman.

The Church appears to have been finished in 1748, in October of which year, the last payment was made. A regular seating of the Church, however, was not made till some time afterwards, in 1765.

The body of the Church contains a nave and side aisles. The former is separated from the aisles by pillars of the Corinthian order, with entablatures of the same, and above the aisles are galleries very handsomely fitted up. The chancel† is an alcove, with a Venetian window above the communion table, and the floor is raised about a foot and a half above that of the Church, and separated by a railing from the nave. The roof is vaulted, and plainly but neatly finished.

The pulpit cloth and cushions are of crimson brocade velvet, trimmed with gold. The

* In order to provide for the accommodation of the parishioners in attending divine service, during the rebuilding of the Church, the Poor-House was converted into a tabernacle, at an expence of about £150.—*Stark*.

† On a tablet in the chancel, amongst a list of benefactions to the poor, the following gifts to the Church are preserved:—Mr. Woolmer gave the large branch. Mr. Brewer, a large silver tankard. Mr. Sampson, a large silver dish. Mr. Dowker, a large silver dish. Mrs. Ann Lee, a large silver salver. Mrs. Ann Hood, a large silver cup.

BOOK IV. materials of which they are made, were taken at the battle of Dettingen, in 1743. The organ, which is a very fine toned one, was built by Longman and Broderip, and set up in 1793.

Monuments. At the east end of the south gallery, a very handsome mural monument is erected, to the memory of Bridget Lady Hickman, daughter of Sir John Thornhaugh, of Fenton, in the county of Nottingham, Knight, and relict of Sir Willoughby Hickman, Bart. who died in the 77th year of her age: but the period of her death is not mentioned.

On the opposite side, at the end of the north gallery, is a similar monument to the memory of William Murray, D. D. twenty-two years Chaplain to the British Factory at Hamburgh, afterwards Rector of Folkingham, and Vicar of Gainsburgh, who died in 1778, erected by desire of his widow, Grace Murray, who died in 1783, aged 73.

The burying-ground was formerly so small, that the dead were literally buried in heaps: but this defect has been remedied by the grant of a considerable piece of ground, part of an adjoining garden, from Mrs. Hickman, the owner of the manor, which was consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln, in 1794.*

At the west corner of the Church, is buried the body of Mr. Nathaniel Robinson, who bequeathed the interest of £20. to be distributed quarterly, on Sunday, to the poor of the parish, in two-penny loaves; and also left a library, consisting of 350 volumes, for the use of the inhabitants. He died the 31st of Jan. 1730, in the 60th year of his age.

The memorials of the Hickman family, in the burying place allotted to them, are much broken and defaced, except a monumental vase, erected by the late Sir Neville Hickman, to the memory of his daughter Rose-Elizabeth, who died in 1769.

The benefice of Gainsburgh is a Vicarage, valued in the King's books at £22. 16s. 8d. Patron, the Prebendary of Corringham.†

Vicarage. At the south-west corner of the Church-Yard, stands the Vicarage-House.

Chapels. The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel is a handsome but plain building, situated on the east side of the town, facing the Spittal road, and erected in 1800. It is capable of containing from 12 to 1500 persons, and is very neatly fitted up.

The Independent Chapel is a large and handsome edifice of modern construction. It is situated at the top of the Beast-Market, at a short distance from the Methodist Chapel.

The Presbyterian Meeting-House, in Beaumont-Street, is a small incommodious building. It was formerly a dwelling-house; but some years since it was altered and fitted up for its present purpose.

* At the rebuilding of the Church, a regulation was adopted, which it would be well if it were more generally followed, namely the preventing interments in the body of the Church. According to immemorial usage, the Old Chancel had been appropriated to the use of the Proprietors of the Manor, the Bishop or his Lessee, and the Churchwardens. But this was left out, on the re-building of the Church, and separated from the rest of the burying-ground by a wall, with iron palisadoes, which was to be appropriated to the same persons and purposes as before the taking down of the Church. By the act, also, no burying-place was to be allowed in the Church.

† Previous to the year 1517, the living of Gainsburgh appears to have been in the gift of the crown; but in that year Edward VI. assigned it over to the then Bishop of Lincoln, Holbech, in whose successors the patronage has since remained.

The Quaker's Meeting-House is a small building, near the top of the Beast-Market, very commodiously fitted up for the purpose intended. The Society have a burying-ground attached.

Grammar-School.

The Grammar-School is situated on Hickman-Hill, on the east side of the town. It consists of a school-room and house for the master, with play-ground in front. This building was erected some years since, upon a vacant piece of land, by tontine: but there is no endowment to the School, the Charter merely giving the governors a power to receive endowment, notwithstanding the statute of mortmain. It is nominally the Free School of Queen Elizabeth: but it is only free to such children whose parents can afford to pay for their education.*

General School

About 1784, Mrs. Hickman, lady of the manor of Gainsburgh, granted by deed, a piece of land in Beaumont-Street, in trust to certain persons, for the purpose of building upon it a dwelling-house for a master and mistress, and also a school for the accommodation of as many poor boys of and within the town, being taught "reading, writing, and arithmetic;" and of "poor girls of and within the town, to read, write, knit, and sew," as could be supported by an annual subscription. A house and school room were accordingly built, but in 1813, on the proposed enlargement of the school, and establishment of the improved system of education, this property was purchased by Mrs. Hickman for £500., and another piece of ground liberally given by her, a little beyond South-holme, on the back part of the town, for erecting more extensive buildings for the same purpose. Here a new house for the master and mistress, with convenient offices, and a large school-room behind, were erected; and on the 18th August, 1813, the school was first opened, at which time 300 scholars of both sexes were admitted. Since then, the number has decreased; but there have been generally from 190 to 220 children taught to read and write, as well as the common rules of arithmetic; and under the active attention of several ladies of the town, the girls have besides been taught to knit and sew.

The boy's belonging to Wharton's Charity, from forty-five to fifty, are educated at this school, at the expence of the trustees of that charity; and the remainder of the children are educated at the expence of the subscribers to the White Hart Charity,† which consists of residents in the town and neighbourhood; a certain number of whom, annually chosen,

* A translation of the foundation charter is printed in the Hist. of Gainsborough, p. 256.

† "The White Hart Charity consists of residents of the town and neighbourhood, who annually subscribe a certain sum, generally a guinea 13s. or 10s., according to their inclinations. From among the subscribers, two stewards and a committee, consisting of twenty-one persons, are annually chosen for the purpose of superintending the affairs of the Charity; and on the last Monday in each July and December, meetings are held to audit the accounts. On the latter day, the subscribers have annually a public dinner at the White Hart Inn. The number of subscribers in July, 1817, amounted to 107, and the subscriptions to £81. 9s. 0d.

"In 1807, Luke Manuel Martin, of this town, bequeathed £250 towards increasing this fund; but on account of an informality in the designation of the particular Charity, £200. only was received. the remainder was given to the trustees of Wharton's Charity.

"In 1791, Robert Etherington left a bequest of £20. towards the White Hart Charity."—*Stork's Gainsburgh*, p. 205.

BOOK IV. superintend the charity, and attend at a quarterly examination of the whole of the pupils, as well as several ladies resident in the town, who have shewn a warm and honourable interest in the education of the girls.

Poor-House. The Poor-House, which is situated at only a short distance from the Church, is a plain building, forming two sides of a quadrangle. It is entirely inclosed, and possesses within the inclosure, a small piece of ground, which is useful as enabling the poor to occupy their attention, and increase their comforts, by raising a few vegetables and other trifling articles.

It appears originally to have formed part of Alms-Houses, erected by Sir Thomas Burgh; to which has since been added some apartments for the matron and master.

The amount expended for the support of the poor of this parish, in 1825, was £2141. 18s., and in 1829, £1550. 1s.*

Charities. Edmund Nicholson, of Gainsburgh, by his will, dated 20th September, 1664, left an annual rent charge of £6., to be divided amongst the poor of Gainsburgh annually.

In the same year, John Gilby, of Gainsburgh, soap-boiler, by his will, dated the 19th September, proved both at Lincoln and London, devised all his lands, &c. to certain persons, excepting one piece of ground, "to the use and behoof of eight of the poorest and most necessitous poor in the said town, for ever, at the approbation of the said Governors and their successors."

John Darrel, M. D. of West Retford, bequeathed by his will, dated on the 11th November, 1664, "Forty Shillings per annum, out of my lands aforesaid, to be issuable, and to be chargeable therewith, to the Trustees of the Free School in Gainsburgh, being a body aggregate in perpetual succession, to the use of and for and towards setting of the poor people of the town of Gainsburgh aforesaid on work."

In 1677, Henry Nicholson, of North Marnham, Notts, by his will, dated 14th March, devised "unto the use of the poor of Gainsburgh, in the County of Lincoln, one moiety, or half part of the rents, issues, and profits of all my lands, houses, meadows, and pastures, with appurtenances, in Elson, in the County of Nottingham, to be distributed by the persons hereafter named—half yearly, to the most aged and impotent persons amongst the said poor inhabitants of Gainsburgh, at Christmas and Midsummer." This land is now let to William Spofford, at an annual rent of £80.; one moiety of which belongs to the Churchwardens and Overseers of Southwell, for the use of the poor of that place.

In 1679, John Smith, by his will, dated 13th April, directed his executors, Richard Turksey and his wife Elizabeth, to convey to certain trustees, "one close of Pasture land, lying in Owston parish, in the County of Lincoln, containing, by estimation, 16 acres,† called the Seggy Close, abutting upon a common lane south, and the Carr west, to the use of the poor of Gainsburgh for ever, so that the rents and profits thereof, should be distributed yearly, upon every 21st day of December, every year, by them, or the survivor of them, in

* From the Report to Parliament, 1830.

† This land, containing, according to admeasurement in 1794, thirteen acres, is situated at Heck-dyke, in the parish of Owston, and is let to John Birks, at an annual rent of £20.—*Stork.*



OLD HALL, GAINSBOROUGH.

monies, to the most needful poor in Gainsburgh, that had many children, so far as it would extend to give 10s. a piece; and if there should not be so many such poor in Gainsburgh, then the most needful poor there." CHAP. II.

In 1704, Sarah Mott, of Doncaster, bequeathed £300. the interest to place out as apprentices three boys of this town.

Francis Barker, of London, in 1709, devised certain lands, the produce of which was to be expended in the purchase of fuel for the poor. This estate is now let at £9. per annum.

In 1725, F. Hopkinson bequeathed £250, the interest for the use of the poor.

J. Wharton, of Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, Esq. by will, dated March 10, 1731, bequeathed all his estates in the parishes of Beckingham and Saunday, to the trustees of the Free Grammar School, Gainsburgh, for various charitable uses. This valuable bequest now produces £115. per annum.

In 1736, Mrs. E. Hopkinson bequeathed £500. the interest to be distributed to the poor.

There are also a great many smaller donations, both of money and land, for the use of the poor of Gainsburgh.

Town-Hall

The Town-Hall is a plain building standing on the north side of the Market-Place.—Here vestry meetings are generally holden, there not being any vestry-room attached to the church. The Magistrates also meet here every Thursday fortnight, to transact the justice business.

Manor-House.

The Old Hall, or Manor-House, situated at the north-west corner of the town, is a most extensive pile of building, occupying nearly half an acre of land, formerly the manorial residence of the proprietors of the manor of Gainsburgh; but since the removal of the Hickman family to Thonock-Grove, about two miles distant, now formed into private dwelling-houses, work-shops, a theatre, &c.

At what time this building was originally founded, cannot be ascertained. At the period of the conquest, and probably long before, there undoubtedly was some building here, termed *caput baroniæ*, which was essential to form a barony, and the grant of which was, according to Madox,* equivalent to a grant of the manor. In the charter granted to William, Earl of Lincoln, King Stephen expressly conveys the castle along with the manor, so that there can be no doubt that then at least one existed, some part of the remains of which are yet to be seen.

Here, therefore, it is probable the Anglo-Saxon Earl had his residence; and here Alfred the Great stopped some time, on the occasion of his marriage with Ethelswith, the daughter of Ethelred, a principal chief among the Anglo-Saxons. Here Swaine probably expired; and here his son and successor, Canute, for some time held his court.

The front of the Old Hall is principally constructed of large oak timber framing, forming three sides of a quadrangle, open to the south; but the back part of the building is generally of brick-work. The whole appears to have been constructed at very different periods; but some part of it is evidently of the time of Stephen, with which it exactly coincides. At that period, the castles, &c. were generally covered with lead, the windows glazed; and when the walls were not of ashler, they were neatly plastered and white-washed on both sides. The

* Madox Bar. Ang. p. 17, et alis.

doors, floors, and roof, were commonly made of oak planks and beams, exactly smoothed and joined, and frequently carved. This is particularly observable in the passage through the hall to the back part, where the side posts are all finely carved, as well as the arches over the door ways. Large wooden buttresses, bearing an exact resemblance to the stone ones of the early style of English architecture, are also peculiar to this part of the building.

On the north side, there is part of a very beautiful pointed stone structure, which probably was originally intended for a chapel. It seems to have formed a regular octagon, the diameter of which may have been about ten feet; and is finished with the utmost care and attention. Over a small flat arched door, the figure of a lion, carved in stone, still remains; and at each angle, a beautiful light pillar, or rather a cluster of small pillars, rise to the top, and terminate in a tastefully ornamented pointed key-stone. The windows are very handsome, of two lights, and the buttresses are slender and elegant.

From the style of architecture, it was probably raised in the latter end of the reign of Edward III. at which time a considerable alteration took place in the form and construction of the pillars and roofs of buildings; and the builder was probably Richard de Gaynisburgh, a distinguished mason, who flourished about the end of the 14th century, and was much employed in repairing and beautifying the cathedral at Lincoln, in the east end of which he was buried.

About sixty or seventy years afterwards, when Sir Thomas Burgh very considerably enlarged the Manor-House, part of this chapel appears to have been taken down, for the purpose of forming a window to the hall or banqueting-room, when a long flat arch was added, in order to render the appearance somewhat perfect. That this was the case, is apparent from the broken appearance of the roof, as well as the evident dissimilarity of the arch with the other part of the building. The banqueting-room has been since converted into a theatre, and very handsomely fitted up for that purpose; and the chapel is used as the green-room, for which it is very well adapted.

Sir Thomas Burgh, temp. Henry VII. and Edward IV. appears to have bestowed considerable pains in re-building the Manor-House, as the greater part of it seems to be of the style of architecture then beginning to be in use. The tower, at the north-west end, about eighty feet in height, is built entirely of brick, and finished in a neat manner, the bricks being all well smoothed, and excellently joined. The trefoil-ornament is here very conspicuous; and the whole bears evident marks of the utmost care and attention having been bestowed upon it.

The tower appears originally to have stood at a short distance from the other parts of the Manor-House, and would be a tolerably secure retreat in case of any sudden attack. It is ascended by a winding stone staircase, which is still in excellent preservation; and the top is surmounted with battlements. Most of the windows are small and narrow; but some of them are about four feet in length, and the same in breadth, having a low pointed arch. The top of the tower commands a very extensive prospect of the whole course of the Trent, nearly to where it joins the Humber, the hills at Aukborough and Burton-Stather being easily seen; and from it the approach of any vessel is perfectly to be distinguished. This portion of the old hall is now occupied as a dwelling-house.

The kitchen, which is at the north-eastern extremity of the building, appears to have been built at nearly the same period. It is entirely of brick, and is in a very perfect condition;

part of the large smoke-jacks still remain as a memorial of its former purpose. In severe winters it is occupied as a soup-kitchen, for the relief of the poor during seasons of scarcity of employment.

As soon as William Hickman, Esq. obtained possession of the manor, he began some considerable additions to the hall, and added two wings to it. On one of the wings his crest is still to be seen, and the west wing is ornamented with a dial, upon which his initals, W. H. are placed, and the words, "DEUS MI—UT UMBRA SIC VITA." He also connected the two wings by a wall, in the centre of which was a gateway; thus separating the court of the hall from the yard, round which he built several shops, stables, &c.

In this state the Old Hall remained till the middle of the last century, when the residence of the family was transferred to Thonock-Grove, about two miles distant from the town. The Hall was last occupied as a mansion-house, by Lord Abingdon, who resided here for a considerable time. The late Lord Abingdon was born here.

A moat, which appears to have at one time surrounded the town, ran behind the Old Hall, and emptied itself into the Trent, at a short distance from it.

A mineral water known under the name of "the Spaw," rises from the hills on the east side of the town, not far from North-holme. In 1763 it is described as a sulphurous spring, it seems, however, that either the water has undergone a great alteration, or otherwise the spring was not the same as that which now exists. The Spaw.

Two Fairs or Marts are annually held here, under a grant from Charles II. The first commences on Easter Monday, and continues during the eight following days, exclusive of Sunday; and the second begins on the 20th of October, and also continues during the next following eight days. Formerly, these fairs used to be attended by persons from all parts of the country, as they were marts for all sorts of commodities: but since the manufacturers and others, have employed travellers in disposing of their goods, the marts have very much declined. A right of holding a court of *pied poudre,* for the settlement of all disputes occuring during the fairs, was also granted by Charles, but it is never held. The market is held every Tuesday, and is, perhaps, one of the best in this part of the county, being well supplied with all sorts of commodities. Fairs.

About a mile and a half from the town, there is still the remains of an ancient fortification, in a very perfect condition, which is usually known by the name of the Danish Camp. It is situated in the lordship of Thonock, and occupies about six acres of land, exactly upon the point of the hill overlooking the Trent. Of this camp, which has long formed an interesting subject of investigation in the neighbourhood, the following account has been left by William Godfrey, Esq., the proprietor of the manor of Thonock in 1666; and the description is still applicable to its present appearance:— Danish Camp.

"In this lordship, even of the hill, which is the very noke of it, for it is triangular, is evidently seen a camp, triple ditched, of a great depth, strongly situated, having the river Trent within a quarter of a mile of it in front—the carrs flank it to the north—on the east and south, the woodland country. This is supposed to be the camp the army of the Danes lay in, when Swain, their King, made his inroads from hence, (his keels or small ships laying then in the Trent,) as far as Oxford, St. Edmund's Burry, in Suffolk, &c. At whose return here, hard by at Gainsburgh, he revelling and carousing, was stabbed among his lords and captains,

BOOK IV. by an unknown hand. This takes up, by estimation, six acres of ground. Now I conjecture this to have been of more antiquity than the Danes' time; though I will not deny but they might make use of it. For I conceive it to have been some fortification, in the Romans' time, of the Britains; being invited to think so from the site of it. For Cæsar tells us that the Britains fortified themselves in such places as were inaccessible, by reason of woods, rivers, and marshes; and just such an one hath this been, as may easily appear to any who have never so little insight but to observe it: how on the west and north, the river Trent, whose bounds were then unlimited, made it marsh and bogs even almost to the foot of the hill; then on the east and south, inaccessible woods for many miles: for in these times, Lincoln itself was called Lindcoat, the town in the woods. But whether the Britains, Romans, Saxons, or Danes, were founders of it, for all these did use to make such entrenchments in these straggling times, in this island, I am not able to give any certainty: but of this I am sure, the reliques manifest that it has been a notable fortification."*

In 1815—16, the greater part of this ground was planted, at which time several curiosities were turned up by the workmen; and amongst others, a curious ancient key; a small dagger, ten inches long, about one-third of an inch thick in the back, four inches and a half long in the body, and only three inches long in the handle; a battle-axe, much resembling an Indian tomahawk; and a very curious horse-shoe, which latter was found near the outer fosse.

Encampments. Adjoining to Park-House, about two miles south-east of the town, there are the remains of several encampments, which from their appearance, are supposed to be the work of the Romans. One of those, the largest of the whole, is in good preservation. It is almost square, measuring about two hundred and ninety feet on the outside; the width of the fosse is about twenty feet.

Besides this, there are the remains of two smaller ones, at a very short distance, but which have been nearly destroyed by the inclosing of the land.

These were probably erected by the Romans as a temporary camp, during their progress through this part of the country: but on what occasion is not known.†

Eminent Names. Among the eminent men either connected with this town by birth or residence, the following deserve particular notice.

William de Gainsborough, was a native of this place, where he was born about the middle of the thirteenth century. He was much employed by King Edward the First, yet we have little notice of him in the chronicles of those times. He was bred a Franciscan, at Oxford, and became a lecturer of his order. By the above monarch he was sent along with Hugh de Manchester, to Philip, King of France, to demand reparation for the damage lately done to his transmarine dominions, in Aquitain, in which he acquitted himself to the King's satisfaction. "William is, however, principally known for his zealous defence of the Pope's infallibility; avowing that his holiness ought never to be asked, why dost thou so? though he causeth the damnation of thousands." This doctrine, so agreeble to the Roman Pontiff, he supported against all opposers; and was preferred by Pope Boniface VIII. to the See of Worcester, of which he was Bishop from 1302 to 1308, in which year he died.

* From a MS. in the possession of Mrs. Hickman, the Lady of the Manor, quoted by Stork.

† Stork's Gainsborough, p. 314.

Richard de Gaynisburgh is presumed to have been born here, about the middle of the thirteenth century. It is probable he is the same person, although then stiled Richard de Stow, with whom the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, in 1306, contracted "to attend to, and employ other masons under him, for the new work; at which time, the new additional east end, as well as the upper parts of the great tower and the transepts were done. He contracted to do the plain work by measure, and the fine carved work and images, by the day."*

The grave-stone, placed over his body in the cathedral, is noticied by Walpole, † and is stated to be almost perfect, except in that material part, the year of his death, the latter figures being obliterated. On each side of him, is his trowl and square. The inscription is as follows:—

Hic jacet Ricardus de Gaynisburgh, olym Cementarius hujus Ecclesie, qui obiit duodecim Kalendarum Junii, Anno Domini MCCC.

Simon Patrick, a learned prelate, was born in this town, Sept. 8, 1626. His father who was a mercer of good credit, and whose name is frequently mentioned in the memoranda of the jury, as foreman, &c., sent him to a school, with a view to a learned education, which was kept by one Merryweather, a Latin scholar, and the translator of Sir Thomas Browne's "Religio Medici." In 1644, June 25, he was admitted as a sizar of Queen's College, Cambridge, and was elected fellow, March 1, 1647. He took the degree of B. A. in 1648; that of M. A. in 1651; and that of B.D. in 1658. Previous to this period, he received holy orders from the celebrated Dr. Hall, Bishop of Norwich, then ejected from his bishopric by the usurping powers, and living at Higham. This was probably about 1651, as in the succeeding year Mr. Patrick preached a sermon at the funeral of Mr. John Smith, of Queen's College, who died Aug, 7, 1652, and was buried in the chapel of that college. He was soon after taken as chaplain into the family of Sir Walter St. John, of Battersea, who gave him that living in 1658. In the same year he published his first work, entitled "Mensa Mystica: or a Discourse concerning the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper; to which is added, a Discourse concerning Baptism." In the following year, he published "The Heart's Ease, or a remedy against all troubles; with a consolatory discourse, particularly directed to those who have lost their friends and dear relations," this went through many editions. In 1660, appeared "Jewish Hypocrisy; a caveat to the present generation," &c.

In 1661, he was elected, by a majority of the fellows, master of Queen's College, in opposition to a royal mandamus, appointing Mr. Anthony Sparrow for that place: but the affair being brought before the King and council, was soon decided in favour of Mr. Sparrow; and some of the fellows, if not all, who had sided with Patrick, were ejected. His next preferment was the rectory of St. Paul's, Covent-Garden, London, in room of the celebrated non-conformist, Dr. Manton. He endeared himself much to the parishioners by instruction and example, and particularly by continuing all the while among them, during the great plague in 1665. It is said further, that, out of a special regard to them, he refused the Archdeaconry of Huntingdon.

* Archæologia, Vol. ix.

† Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting, Vol. I. p. 192

BOOK IV. Two papers which he circulated during the plague, were printed in the latter editions of his "Heart's Ease." Having some reason to be offended with the treatment he met with at Cambridge, he went to Oxford, for his degrees in divinity; and entering himself of Christ's-Church, completed his doctor's degree in 1666, about which time, he was made chaplain in ordinary to the King. In 1668, he published his "Parable of the Pilgrim," 4to. which some have thought the precursor of Bunyan's more popular work; but the difference is too strikingly marked in the reception these two "Pilgrims" have met with, to admit of any comparison. This was followed by Dr. Patrick's "Exposition of the Ten Commandments," 1668, and by a controversial work of some importance, printed the following year, with the title "A friendly debate betwixt two neighbours, the one a conformist, the other a non-conformist, about several weighty matters. Published for the benefit of this city. By a lover of it, and of pure religion." This consisted of two parts, to which a third was added in 1670, and was answered by some of the non-conformist writers, who were much exasperated at it.

Dr. Patrick's next publication, of the more practical kind, was his "Christian Sacrifice; a treatise shewing the necessity, end, and manner of receiving the Holy Communion, &c." 1671. This was followed by his "Devout Christian," a book of forms of prayer, 1672; "Advice to a Friend," 1677; "Jesus and the Resurrection justified by witnesses in Heaven and Earth," 1677; "The Glorious Epiphany," 1678; and various pious tracts of the popular kind, published from this date to 1703, and a considerable number of occasional sermons.

In the interim, in July 1672, he was made Prebendary of Westminister, and Dean of Peterborough, in Aug. 1679. Here he completed the "History of the Church of Peterborough," which had been compiled by Simon Gunton, who was a native and Prebendary of Peterborough. Gunton died in 1676; and Patrick published in 1686, his manuscript in folio. In 1680, the Lord Chancellor Finch offered him the living of St. Martin's in the Fields; but he refused it, and recommended Dr. Thomas Tenison, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury.

During the reign of James II. Dr. Patrick was one of those able champions, who defended the protestant religion against the designs of the court. His most remarkable service in this way was his conference with two priests of the Church of Rome, of which we have the following account: "Great endeavours were used, to bring Laurence Hyde, Earl of Rochester, Lord High Treasurer in King James's reign, to embrace popery, but in vain. At length, his Lordship, being pressed and fatigued by the King's intreaties, told his Majesty, that to let him see it was not through any prejudice of education, or obstinacy, that he persevered in his religion, he would freely consent to hear some protestant divines dispute with some popish priests, and promised to side with the conquerors. On this, the King appointed a conference to be held at Whitehall, at which his Majesty and several persons of rank were present. The protestant champions were Dr. Patrick and Dr. William Jane, the two chaplains then in waiting. Those on the popish side, were Gifford, a Doctor of the Sorbonne, probably the same whom King James wished to obtrude upon Magdalen-College, and a Mr. Tilden, who, having turned papist at Lisbon, went by the name of Dr. Goddon. The subject of their dispute was the 'rule of faith,' and 'the proper judge in controversies.' The conference was very long; and, at last, the Romish doctors were pressed with so much strength of reason and authority against them, that they were really put to silence. On this the Earl of Rochester declared, 'that the victory the protestant divines had gained, made no alteration in his mind, being beforehand con-

vinced of the truth of his religion, and firmly resolved never to forsake it.' The King, going off abruptly, was heard to say, he never saw a bad cause so well, nor a good one so ill maintained."

The King had often taken pains to gain over Patrick, but the Dean always replied with proper courage, "That he could not give up a religion so well proved as that of the protestant." Conformably to this principle, he boldly opposed the reading of his Majesty's declaration for liberty of conscience; and assisted Dr. Tenison in setting up a school at St. Martin's, in opposition to the popish one, opened at the Savoy. This was the origin of the ward and parish schools of London. He had also a great share in the comprehension projected by Archbishop Sancroft, in order to bring over the dissenters, which it is well known, was unsuccessful.

At the revolution, in 1688, great use was made of the Dean; he was called upon to preach before the Prince and Princess of Orange; and was soon after appointed one of the commissioners for the review of the liturgy. In October, 1689, he was made Bishop of Chichester; and employed, with others of the new Bishops, to compose the disorders of the church of Ireland. In July, 1691, he was translated to the see of Ely in the place of Turner, who was deprived for refusing the oaths to government. Here he continued to perform all the offices of a good and pious Bishop, as well as a charitable man, which he had ever proved himself on all occasions. He died at Ely, May 31, 1707, aged eighty; and was interred in the cathedral, where a monument is erected to his memory, with an inscription said to have been written by Dr. Leng, afterwards Bishop of Norwich.

This prelate was one of the most learned men as well as best writers of his time.—"We have noticed," says Mr. Stork, "his principal writings, but have still to add his Paraphrases and Commentaries upon the Old Testament, as far as the Prophets, which are the result of extensive reading, and perhaps the most useful of any ever written in the English language." They were published at various times, but reprinted in 2 vols. folio; and with Lowth on the Prophets, Arnald on the Apocrypha, and Whitby on the New Testament, have been published in folio, and very recently in 4to. as a regular commentary upon all the sacred books. The style of this prelate is even and easy, his compositions rational, and full of good and sound sense. Burnet ranks him among those many worthy and eminent clergymen in this nation, who deserved a high character; and were indeed an honour to the church, and to the age in which they lived.

Our prelate had a brother, John Patrick, preacher at the Charter-House, according to Wharton, and one of the translators of Plutarch. Dr. Samuel Patrick, the editor of an edition of Ainsworth's Dictionary, was also at the Charter-House, but whether a relation does not appear. Wharton also says he had a son, who wasted an estate left him by his father, and it was sold, after his death, "for debts and portions."—Mrs. Catherine Patrick, a maiden lady of eighty-two years old, said to be our prelate's grand-daughter, died at Bury, in 1799.—Whiston speaks of a life of Bishop Patrick, written by himself, which he had read, and which was in Dr. Knight's hands but where now, is not known.*

* Biographical Dictionary, vol. xxiv. p. 191.

Richard Sutton, the founder of the Charter-House, in London, is said to have been born in this town, in 1532, though, by some, he is asserted to have been a native of the village of Knaith, a few miles distant. He was bred a soldier, and, by some means, became paymaster of a regiment, by which he acquired so much money, as to lay the foundation of his future eminent fortune. Afterwards, he became a merchant, in which profession, his former good fortune did not forsake him. During his life, he laid the foundation of the Charter-House, and in 1611, bequeathed almost the whole of his wealth, to support this establishment, which is justly reckoned the master piece of protestant charity, and not to be equalled in Europe, having been erected solely at the charge of one man. He died in 1611.

Besides these, many others might be mentioned, as for instance, William Forman, a native of Gainsburgh, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1538; but as their exertions were confined within the common range of life, a dry detail of unimportant events, would neither be interesting nor instructive.

The village of *Morton*, although a separate constablewick, is only a hamlet in the parish of Gainsborough, from which town it is distant about a mile north, and is situated on the east bank of the Trent. In 1821, it contained 143 houses, and 580 inhabitants.

Walkerith is another hamlet in the parish of Gainsborough, situate on the east side of the Trent, about a mile north of Morton, which forms a separate constablewick. It contained, in 1821, 11 houses, and 67 inhabitants.

East Stockwith is also a hamlet in the parish of Gainsborough, and is situate on the east side of the Trent, about a mile north from the hamlet of Walkerith, forming a distinct constablewick. A fair for sheep, cattle, and horses, is annually held at this place on the fourth of September. In 1821, the number of houses in this place was 46, and of inhabitants 224.

CHAPTER III.

TOPOGRAPHY OF THE HUNDREDS OF CORRINGHAM, ASLACOE, WELL, LAWRESS, AND WRAGGOE.

PILHAM, distant about four miles east by north from Gainsborough, contained in 1821, with the adjacent hamlet of Gilby, 20 houses, and 102 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to All Saint's, is a small modern structure. The benefice is a rectory in the patronage of the crown. It is valued in the king's books at £6. 3s. 4d.

CORRINGHAM, situate about four miles east from Gainsborough, gives name to the wapentake. Formerly it was the residence of a family named Broxholme; but it is now the property of Thomas Duckle, Esquire. This parish includes the hamlets or manors of Haseby, Glewthorpe, Dunstan, Huckerby, and Somerby, the last of which contains the seat of Sir John Beckett, baronet. The church, which is an ancient structure dedicated to St. Lawrence, is extra-judicial, and consists of a tower, nave, and chancel, with a chapel on the north side, which has been used as a school room. Under an arch in the north wall of the chancel, is a table tomb, around the top of which is an inscription, of which the only decypherable words are

Lincolnie et prebendarius hujus.

Above the arch is a plate of brass, inscribed in latin to Henry Clifford, B. D. prebendary of Stow, and vicar of this church, who died in 1628, aged 52, and of Eleanor his wife, daughter of Richard Jackson, gentleman; above the inscription are their figures, kneeling at a desk, and between them those of their three sons. Another plate of brass, dated 1631, contains a memorial of Robert and Thomas Broxholme, gentlemen, late of this parish, underneath which is a long epitaph. In the vestry is preserved a stone coffin, which was found in digging in the church yard. The benefice is a vicarge in the gift of the Prebendary of Corringham, in Lincoln Cathedral. It is valued in the king's books at £12. The number of houses in this parish in 1821, was 102, and of inhabitants 479.

LITTLE CORRINGHAM, a hamlet of Corringham, which village it adjoins on the south, is a separate constablewick.

LEA, two miles south from Gainsborough, is a pleasant village, wherein is the seat of the Reverend Sir Charles Anderson, Baronet, a lineal descendant of Sir Edmund Anderson, who was Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in the time of Queen Elizabeth. In 1821, Lea with the adjacent hamlet of Lea Wood, contained 36 houses, and 199 inhabitants. The church dedicated to St. Helen, is a small building of early English architecture, the windows

BOOK IV. being of the lancet form. In the chancel is the recumbent figure of a knight, and at the east end of the north aisle is a cemetery, wherein are deposited the remains of several of the Andersons, memorials of some of whom are inscribed on marble tablets in the church. In a field in this parish, are the traces of a building, and a moat, said to have been a preceptory of the Knights Templars, but no mention is made of such an establishment as this by Tanner, Dugdale, or Speed. A Cistercian nunnery was founded in 1180, at Hevening in this parish, by Reyner Evermue; it was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and at the dissolution had a revenue of £58. 13s. 4d. The Trent, on the western side of this parish, formerly exhibited two very remarkable curves, forming small peninsulas, but which are now by the rapidity of the current, separated from the main land. Shakspeare, in his first part of the play of Henry the fourth, Act 3, Scene 1, introduced a warm dispute between Hotspur and Glendower concerning these curvatures. Gypsum is found under marl in this parish.

The town of KIRTON is pleasantly situated on the summit and western side of a commanding eminence, at the distance of eighteen miles north from Lincoln, and about ten miles north-east from Gainsborough.

It is a very irregularly built place, and in 1821, contained 330 houses, and 1480 inhabitants. The market, which is held weekly on Saturdays, is very small, excepting in the spring and autumn, when a tolerable number of sheep and cattle are sold at this place. Two fairs for the sale of cattle are also held here annually, one of which is on the eighteenth of July, the other on the eleventh of December.

The manor of this place anciently formed part of the possessions of the Earls of Cornwall, Robert Mortaigne, the first Earl, and half brother to William the Conqueror, receiving a grant of it shortly after the period of the Norman conquest. The manor appears afterwards to have been separated from that earldom, Edward the Second granting it to his niece Margaret, the widow of Piers Gaveston, upon her marriage with Hugh Audbey the younger. In the reign of Edward the Third, that monarch granted this manor to William Earl of Huntingdon, and on his death it appears to have become the property of Edward the Black Prince, who assigned one third part of it to Elizabeth the widow of the Earl of Huntingdon, and the remainder to the Earl of Chandos. At some subsequent period it became attached to the Duchy of Cornwall, to which it at present belongs.

The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is situated at the western part of the town. It is a massive building of early pointed architecture, excepting the chancel, the architecture of which may be referred to a Norman period. The tower is very broad and strengthened by buttresses; and contains lancet-arched windows, those in the upper part being placed in pairs. The nave consists of a middle and side aisles, and is lighted by pointed windows containing good tracery. At the end of each aisle is a part separated by screen work, each of which contains a piscina: these were probably once used as chapels. The chancel, which from its circular headed windows, may be considered an early Norman structure, is separated from the nave by a handsome screen, and contains some curious oak seats, with lions couchant carved on their pommels. It is entered on the south side by a square headed door-way, surmounted by a circular chevron arch, the space beneath being filled up by an assemblage of runic knots.

The quarter sessions for the northern part of the division of Lindsey, are held at this place. The House of Correction is an excellent building of stone, which was dug near the spot, and

consists of a centre and two wings, both fronts being nearly similar. The central part towards the east, contains the sessions court, which is used on Sundays as a chapel for the prisoners, over which is the room for the grand jury; the western part contains the apartments of the keeper. The south wing is appropriated to the male prisoners, and the north to the females.

On a place called the green, stands the Duchy court house, a handsome brick building, where the manorial courts are held, and where the records are kept. Near to the court house is the grammar school, the endowment of which is good.

SPRINGTHORPE is distant about four miles east by south from Gainsborough, and in 1821, contained 32 houses, and 200 inhabitants. The church dedicated to St. George, is a small building, which is entered on the south side, through a circular head door-way, ornamented with a chevron moulding. The benefice is a rectory, valued in the king's books, at £14. 3s. 4d. Patron the Lord Chancellor.

HEAPHAM, situate at the distance of about four miles south-east from Gainsborough, contained in 1821, 23 houses, and 112 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small building, the tower of which contains windows of Norman architecture. In the church-yard is the fragment of a shaft, which once supported a cross. The benefice, a rectory valued in the king's books at £10., is in the patronage of C. Chaplin, Esq.

The village of GRAVINGHAM, is situate about a mile and a half south from Kirton, and about eight miles from Gainsborough. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 24, and of inhabitants 141. The church, dedicated to St. Radegund, is a modern building attached to an old tower. The benefice is a rectory in the patronage of Sir J. H. Thorald, bart. It is valued at £25. 17s. 6d.

NORTHORPE is distant about three miles west from Kirton, and about seven miles north-east from Gainsborough. In 1821 it contained 26 houses, and 127 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, which has been extensively repaired, is a neat building, and contains, on the floor of the chancel, a stone with the figures in brass of a man in armour, between two females, half of which only is visible, the lower part with the inscription being covered by the floor of a pew. The chancel also contains two brass plates, one of which is inscribed to William the eldest son of John Monson, of Northorpe, Esquire, who died in the year 1638; the other contains a memorial of Anthony, the fourth son of Sir John Monson, of South Carlton, Knight, who died in 1643. The benefice is a vicarage valued in the Liber Regis at £4. Patron the Bishop of Lincoln.

SOUTHORPE, though a separate constablewick, is only a hamlet in the parish of Northorpe, from which village it is distant about a mile southward.

At the distance of about six miles northward from Gainsborough, is the village of LAUGHTON, which was anciently the seat of a family named Dallyson, whose possessions here are now the property of the marchioness of Hertford. In 1821, Laughton contained 51 houses, and 319 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a very neat building. It appears from the circular arches dividing the north aisle from the nave, to have been originally a Norman structure. At the end of the north aisle is a tomb, on which is an inscription to the memory of William Dallyson, Esquire, sheriff of this county and justice of the peace, who died in 1546; and of his son George, who died in 1549: above the inscription are their figures under a canopy. In the wall over the tomb, is the bust of a figure with its hands in a sup-

BOOK IV. plicating attitude. A coffin shaped stone, sculptured with the figure of a cross, and an imperfect inscription in saxon letters, was buried under the floor of the chancel, when the church was repaired. The benefice, a vicarage rated in the king's books at £12. is in the patronage of the Marchioness of Hertford. In this parish is a free school, founded under the authority of letters patent, in the tenth year of the reign of queen Elizabeth, by William Dallyson, and endowed by his brother Sir Roger Dallyson, with a stipend for the master of twenty pounds per annum, payable out of certain estates in the parish of Bucknall, in this county. Here is a small chapel for Wesleyan Methodists.

WILDSWORTH a hamlet or parish contains 16 houses, and 103 inhabitants.

SCOTTER stands at the distance of four miles north-west from Kirton, and about nine miles north-east from Gainsborough. In 1821, this parish contained 184 houses, and 938 inhabitants. This parish is very extensive, comprising the hamlets of Scotterthorpe and Susworth, and containing about four thousand four hundred acres. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, which is a plain neat structure, was extensively repaired in 1820: it contains a tablet, with a memorial in latin of Marmaduke Tirwhit, Esquire, who died in 1599, aged 66; and a plate of copper, on which is an inscription to the memory of Mrs. Sarah Smith, who died in 1739, aged 75. On the floor, within the rails of the communion table, are inscriptions to William Carrington, who died in 1697, Robert Pearse, who died in 1741, and Tyrrel Hewitt, who died in 1721, all of whom were rectors of this parish; and another to Abraham Smith, rector of Froddingham, and minister of this parish, who died in 1770. The benefice is a rectory valued in the king's books at £22. 4s. 2d. Patron the Bishop of Peterborough.

SCOTTON is situate at the distance of about three miles west by north from Kirton, and about nine miles north-east from Gainsborough. In 1821, it contained 62 houses, and 364 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Genewy's, is a spacious building, of early English architecture, several of the windows retaining their original tracery. The ceiling is of oak, and is ornamented at the intersections of the timbers, with shields containing armorial bearings. On the north side of the chancel, is the recumbent figure in stone of a knight, and on the south side is that of a female, both of which are much mutilated. The benefice is a rectory valued in the Liber Regis at £23. Patron Sir R. Frederick, bart.

EAST FERRY, situate on the eastern bank of the Trent, is a hamlet in the parish of Scotton, from which village it is distant about three miles. It is a separate constablewick and contains about 30 houses.

BLYTON is a small parish, situate about four miles north-east from Gainsborough. In 1821, this place and the hamlet of Wharton, contained 98 houses, and 504 inhabitants. The church a neat modernized building, is dedicated to St. Martin. The living is a vicarage valued in the Liber Regis at £12. Patron the Earl of Scarborough.

GREENHILL is an extra-parochial place, containing a single house and 11 inhabitants.

PADDOCKS also extra-parochial, contains 3 inhabitants.

Aslacoe Wapentake.

The wapentake of Aslacoe is situated north of the city of Lincoln, the Roman road from the latter place to the Humber traversing it from south to north.

Hackthorn.

HACKTHORN is situated about seven miles and a half northward from Lincoln. The church is a modernized building, dedicated to St. Michael. The benefice is a discharged vicarage rated in the king's books at £4. and endowed with £400. royal bounty. Patron R. Cracroft,

Esq. who has a neat seat here. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 29, and of inhabitants 256.

Hanworth. HANWORTH, commonly called Cold Hanworth, from its situation in a cold clayey soil, is situate about eight miles north-east from Lincoln, and about a similar distance south-west from Market-Rasen. Its church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small ruinous building. The living a rectory, rated in the king's books at £5. 10s. 0d. is in the patronage of R. Cracroft, Esq. In 1821, it contained 8 houses, and 57 inhabitants.

Spridlington. SPRIDLINGTON stands about nine miles northward from Lincoln, and about eight south-west from Market-Rasen. In this parish the river Ancholme and the Langworth or Barlings river have their source; the first flowing from hence in a north easterly direction, and the other taking a southerly course. The church, dedicated to St. Hilary, is a neat modern structure. The benefice is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £11. 10s. Patron the Rev. F. Gildart. In 1821 this parish contained 33 houses, and 199 inhabitants.

East Firsby. EAST FIRSBY is a depopulated villiage, about eight miles northward from Lincoln, containing only 29 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. James, is entirely gone, its site only remaining, the parishoners resort to Saxby Church. The benefice is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £6. 13s. 4d.

West Firsby. WEST FIRSBY, though a separate constablewick, is only a hamlet to East Firsby. It is also depopulated, containing only 34 inhabitants.

Saxby. SAXBY is distant about ten miles northward from Lincoln, and about seven miles westward from Market-Rasen. This village was the seat of Sir Nicholas Saunderson, Knight, who was created a Baron in the year 1612, and afterwards had the title of Viscount Castleton, in Ireland, conferred upon him. The church is a modern brick building, dedicated to St. Peter. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £5. and in the patronage of the Earl of Harborough. In this parish, near to the church, some foundations have been discovered, which are supposed to be the remains of a Roman villa. In 1821, Saxby contained 20 houses, and 105 inhabitants.

Owmby. OWMBY, which is situated about eleven miles northward from Lincoln, and about seven miles and a half westward from Market-Rasen, contained in 1821, 38 houses, and 196 inhabitants, The church is a modernized building; but from some circular arches which divide the nave from a north aisle, it appears to have been originally a Norman structure. The benefice is a discharged vicarage held with Searby.

Normanby. NORMANBY, called Normanby-by-Spittal, in contradistinction to other villages of the same name in this county, is distant about twelve miles northward from Lincoln, and about eight miles west from Market-Rasen. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a small building, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower, but containing nothing of interest. The benefice is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at £5. It is in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln. Here is a chapel for Wesleyan Methodists. Mr. Dunn in 1767 gave a small endowment for the education of children in this parish. In 1821, this parish contained 46 houses, and 328 inhabitants.

Caenby. CAENBY, situate about twelve miles and a half north from Lincoln, and about eight miles west from Market-Rasen, contained in 1821, 17 houses, and 121 inhabitants. The church is a small structure, dedicated to St. Nicholas. It is a rectory rated in the king's books at

BOOK IV. £4. 13s. 4d. Patron, L. Monck, Esq. In this parish, near to the road from Lincoln to Barton, is the seat of Sir Charles Monk, Baronet.

Glentham. GLENTHAM is distant about thirteen miles northward from Lincoln, and about eight miles westward from Market-Rasen. The church dedicated to St. Peter. The tower and chancel of the church are modern, but the architecture of the nave and aisles bespeak them to have been erected about the reign of Henry the seventh. On the south side is a porch, over the entrance to which is a niche containing a figure of the virgin and child. The benefice is a vicarage in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln. It is rated in the Liber Regis at £8. There is a neat chapel here for Wesleyan Methodists, and a small endowed Alms House. The number of houses in Glentham in 1821 was 52, and of inhabitants 372.

Bishop Norton. BISHOP NORTON is situate about fourteen miles north from Lincoln, and about eight miles westward from Market-Rasen. This village was the seat of a gentleman named Edward Whinchcot, who for his adherence to the cause of Charles the first, against the parliament had his estate taken from him, and was obliged to pay the sum of £1700. to obtain the restitution of it.

Norton Place. In this parish, and near to the road from Lincoln to Barton, is Norton Place, formerly the seat of the late John Harrison, Esquire, and now of his grandson Montague Cholmeley, Esq. The mansion which is an elegant building, was built in 1776, from the designs of Mr. Carr, architect, of York. The interior of the house contains a number of handsome apartments, commanding fine views of the pleasure grounds, which are laid out with taste; and a handsome stone bridge of three arches, over an extensive piece of water, gives a pleasing effect to the surrounding scenery.

The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a modern erection. On the north of the chancel is a cemetery, wherein are deposited the remains of John Harrison, Esquire, and several of his family. The living is a vicarage in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Prebendary of Bishop's Norton, in Lincoln Cathedral. It is rated in the king's books at £9. Here is a chapel for Wesleyan Methodists. In 1821, Norton contained 62 houses, and 303 inhabitants.

Atterby. ATTERBY, though a separate constablewick, is only a hamlet to Bishop Norton, which village it adjoins. In 1821, the number of houses in this place was 20, and inhabitants 110.

Snitterby. SNITTERBY, though a separate constablewick, is a hamlet and chapelry of the parish of Wadingham, in the wapentake of Manley. The chapel is a mean modern building, dedicated to St. Nicholas. The benefice is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Wadingham. Snitterby is distant about fifteen miles northward from Lincoln, and about nine miles westward from Market-Rasen. In 1821, it contained 36 houses, and 153 inhabitants.

Blyborough. BLYBOROUGH is situated about fifteen miles northward from Lincoln, and nine miles westward from Gainsborough. It was once the seat of a family named Southcote; it afterwards came into the possession of the Broadleys, and is now the property of P. J. Luard, Esquire. The manor house, a modern building, is approached through a fine long avenue of elms. The church, dedicated to St. Alkmond, is a small structure, in the chancel of which is a tomb, on which is laid the figure of a priest; and around the edge of the stone whereon the figure is laid, is a latin inscription, commemorative of Robert Conyng, formerly rector of this church, who died in the year 1436. In the floor of an aisle on the north side is a stone inscribed to



the memory of Dorothy, wife of Edmund Southcote, who died in 1714, aged 60; by the side of this is a tomb over the remains of Edmund Southcote, Esquire, who died in 1725, aged 45; and against the wall of a cemetery on the north of the chancel, is a tablet to the memory of John Broadley, who died in 1794, aged 64; and of Elizabeth his widow, who died in 1823, aged 89. It is a rectory in the patronage of the king, valued in the king's books at £19. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 27, and of inhabitants 124.

Willoughton.

WILLOUGHTON is distant about fourteen miles northward from Lincoln, and about eight miles east from Gainsborough. At this place was an alien priory. The empress Maud gave the church, or a moiety of it, to the abbey of Saint Nicholas by Angiers, and that abbey had a pension out of it; and a manor in this parish once belonging to that abbey, was granted by Henry the sixth to King's College, Cambridge. John Harding had granted him 18th Henry VI.; a fee farm rent of £10. per annum, issuing out of the manor or alien priory of Willoughton, in Lincolnshire, which was the following year confirmed by other letters patent, of the same king, * and a pension of £20. per annum, during his life charged upon the revenues of the county of Lincoln.† Roger de Buslei and Simon de Canci, in the reign of King Stephen, gave the moiety of the church here, and the greatest part of the town, to the knights templars, from whom it came afterwards to the hospitallers, and here was a preceptory of that order, valued at the dissolution of monasteries, according to Dugdale at £174. 11s. 1d. per annum, and which was granted in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the eight to John Cock and John Thurgood. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small modern building. The benefice is a vicarage in medieties, valued in the Liber regis at £7. 4s. 2d. It is in the alternate patronage of the Provost and Fellows of King's College, Cambridge, and Lord Scarborough. There is a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in this village. In 1821, this village contained 72 houses, and 409 inhabitants.

Priory.

Hemswell.

HEMSWELL, which is distant about thirteen miles northward from Lincoln, and seven miles east from Gainsborough, contained in 1821, 65 houses, and 271 inhabitants. The church which has been curtailed, contains some windows exhibiting fine tracery. It is dedicated to All Saints. The living which was formerly a rectory, rated in the king's books at £27. 13s. 4d. is now a perpetual curacy, endowed with £400. royal bounty. It is in the patronage of the mayor and corporation of Lincoln. In this village is a chapel belonging to the Wesleyan Methodists.

Spittal.

In this parish is the hamlet of SPITTAL-IN-THE-STREET, taking the former name from having an ancient hospital, and the latter as lying upon the Roman road from Lincoln to the Humber. This place consists of an hospital for poor widows, a chapel, and a sessions house. The hospital was founded before the sixteenth of Edward the second, and augmented by Thomas Aston, canon of Lincoln in the time of Richard the second. It is under the protection of the dean and chapter of Lincoln. Against the wall is

DEO & DIVITIBUS, A° DNI. 1620.

The poor widows receive an allowance of one shilling per week, with a blue gown, and a load of coals annually. The chapel is a small building, in which divine service is performed

* Pat. 19th Hen. vi. p. 1. m. 19.

† Archælogia, i. 101.

BOOK IV. monthly, for which the chaplain receives an annual salary of six guineas. It is apparently of the architecture of the reign of Richard the second. In the end of the building is a stone, containing this inscription:

FUI A°. Dni....1398 } DOM DEI &
NON FUI.......1594 } PAUPERUM
SUM...........1616 }
QUI. HANC. DEUS. NUNC DESTRUET.

Over the sessions house,

HÆC DOMUS DAT, AMAT, PUNIT, CONSERVAT, HONORAT, EQUITIAM, PACEM, CRIMINA JURA BONOS, 1620. Arms of Ulster. Over the door, FIAT JUSTITIA, 1619.

This manor belonged to the family of Wray, an ancester of whom, who was Lord Chief Justice of England in the time of Elizabeth, built the sessions house. The inn, which is on the opposite side of the road, is in the parish of Glentham.

A fair is held at this place annually, on the twenty-second day of November, which was formerly held at the neighbouring village of Glentworth.

Harpswell. HARPSWELL, which contains an ancient seat of the family of Whichcot, is situate about twelve miles northward from Lincoln, and eight miles eastward from Gainsborough. The church which appears to have been originally a Norman structure is dedicated to St. Chad. It is reduced in dimensions, and contains a monument inscribed to the memory of Thomas Whichcot, Esquire, son of Colonel George Whichcot, who died in 1776, aged 76; and of his two wives, the first of whom Elizabeth Maria, daughter of Francis Anderson, of Manby, who died in 1731, aged 21; the other Jane, daughter of John Tregagle, Esquire, died in 1764, aged 71. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of Sir T. Whichcote, Bart. In 1821, the number of houses in Harpswell was 18, and of inhabitants 79.

Glentworth. The small village of GLENTWORTH is eleven miles northward from Lincoln, and nine miles eastward from Gainsborough, was formerly the seat of the family of Wray. This family was anciently seated in the county of Durham, and afterwards possessed several estates in Yorkshire. Sir Christopher Wray, Knight, who was Lord Chief Justice of England in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, on his first residence in Lincolnshire, settled in this place, where he erected a splendid mansion, which continued to be the seat of the family, until their removal to the adjacent village of Fillingham. Of this mansion the ruins still remain, forming three sides of a quadrangle, and presenting a fine specimen of the architecture of the sixteenth century. The fourth side is occupied by a modern dwelling-house, now the property of Lord Scarborough. Sir William Wray, the son of the Lord Chief Justice, was by James the first created a baronet. The church an ancient structure is dedicated to St. Michael. In the chancel is a splendid monument to the memory of the Lord Chief Justice Wray, who died in 1592, whereon is his effigy sculptured in his robes; above him is the figure of his son; and below those of his four daughters, kneeling. On the opposite side of the church is another monument, containing an inscription to Elizabeth, widow of the Honorable Nicholas Saunderson, son of Viscount Castleton in Ireland, who died in 1714, aged 50. The benefice is a vicarage valued

in the king's books at £7. 17s. 6d. The Earl of Scarborough is patron. Near to the church, is an alms house for three poor women, with a small endowment. According to the Magna Britannia, which was published in the year 1720, a free school at that period existed in this village, but which does not now remain. This parish, in 1821, contained 45 houses, and 275 inhabitants.

Fillingham.

FILLINGHAM, distant about ten miles northward from Lincoln, was in the time of Richard the second, the residence of a family named Ducket. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small modern building, in the chancel of which is a small monument in memory of Jane, wife of Thomas Sanderson, of Lincoln's Inn, in the county of Middlesex, and daughter of Denshill Holles, of Ereby, in this county, who died in 1603. There are also small tablets, one of which contains a memorial of Sir Cecil Wray, baronet, who died in 1805, aged 71; the other of his widow, Dame Ester Wray, who died in 1825, aged 89. The benefice is a rectory rated in the king's books at £22. Patron, the Master and Fellows of Baliol college, Oxford. A fair which was annually held at this village, is now held in the neighbouring hamlet of Spittal. A school for twenty poor children, was according to the Magna Britannia, established at this place in the year 1709, but does not now exist.

Summer Castle

In this parish is SUMMER CASTLE, which was built in the year 1760, by Sir Cecil Wray, baronet, a descendant of the Lord Chief Justice Wray. It is now the seat of Colonel Dalton. This house is in the Gothic castellated form; square, with a circular bastion tower at each corner, and an embattled parapet, and is constructed of stone which was dug upon the estate. Situated on an eminence, the views from it are very extensive, bounded on the west by the hills of Derbyshire, on the south by the high lands of Leicestershire, on the north by those of Yorkshire, and on the east by the Lincolnshire wolds. The park is well wooded, and the effect of the plantations is greatly heightened by that animated appearance which water ever gives to sylvan scenery. In the grounds adjacent to the castle, are evident marks of a Roman camp; for in digging have been found Roman coins, broken spears, swords, and bridle ornaments. In a stone coffin were discovered human bones, cased in searcloth and lead, with the vacancies filled up with liquid lime and alabaster, Fossil shells have also been dug up here. The parish in 1821, contained 52 houses, and 279 inhabitants.

Coates.

The small parish of COATES occupies an obscure situation about nine miles north-west from Lincoln, and about an equal distance south-east from Gainsborough. It was anciently the seat of a family named Butler. Mr. Charles Butler, in the reign of Charles the first, distinguished himself by espousing the royal cause, and on that account his estates were sequestrated, to redeem which he was obliged to pay £970. for the use of the commonwealth. The rectory was sequestrated at the same time, and is now held by sequestration. The church, dedicated to St. Edith, which appears originally to have been of larger dimensions, is a small mean building, and is entered through a circular door of Norman architecture. In the chancel are three monumental brasses of the Butlers. One of these is inscribed in latin to Charles, the first son of Anthony Butler, Esquire, who died in 1602, aged 42, and Douglas his wife, the daughter of Marmaduke Tyrwhit, Esquire, of Scotter; above the inscription are their figures, and below, those of their five sons and three daughters. Another contains a memorial in latin, of William, the second son of Anthony Butler, Esquire, who died in 1590, aged 26, and of Elizabeth his wife, the daughter of George York, of Ashby in Kesteven: their figures,

BOOK IV. with that of their daughter, who died in infancy, are sculptured above the inscription. The third is in memory of Anthony, son of Anthony Butler, Esquire, who died 1673, being the last heir male of the family. The chancel also contains a small tablet to the memory of Brian Cooke, Esquire, of Doncaster, who died in 1653, aged 80; above which is his bust in alabaster. In the floor are two stones with inscriptions around their verges, but so much worn and broken as to be illegible. The living is a vicarage, valued in the Liber Regis, at £3. 16s. 8d. In 1821, this parish contained only 8 houses, and 45 inhabitants.

Ingham. INGHAM, distant about eight miles northward from Lincoln, is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a modern erection. The benefice, a vicarage rated in the Liber Regis at £6. 13s. 4d. is in the patronage of C. Neville, Esq. In 1821, the number of houses in this village was 50, and of inhabitants 287.

Cameringham. In the parish of CAMERINGHAM, about seven miles northward from Lincoln, was an alien priory, to the Premonstratensian Abbey of Blanche Lande in Normandy, which was founded in the reign of Henry the second, by Richard de Hay and Maud his wife, and endowed by them with the manor of this place. About the nineteenth year of Richard the second, Elizabeth widow of Sir Nicholas Audley purchased this priory of the foreign monastery, and by the king's licence settled it on the abbey of Hulton, in Staffordshire; and as parcel of the possessions thereof, the manor and church here were granted in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the eighth to Robert Tyrwhit, Esq. Of the priory no vestiges remain. The manor is the property of Lord Monson. The church, which has been reduced from its original dimensions, appears from the circular arches now included in the wall, to have been originally of Norman structure. Against the north wall of the chancel is a lozenge shaped marble tablet, which contains the following inscription:

"This monument is in memorie of the most Virtuous & Religious Gentlewoman Mrs. JANE TYRWHYT, who was borne in this Towne of Camringham Anno Dom. 1603, & she dyed in this Towne, in December 1656. Her father Robert Tyrwhyt, Esq. was Lord of this Towne, who had Issue by his pious wife Anne Bassett, 8 Sons, and 8 Daughters, viz. Marmaduke, Robert, William, Edmond, Francis, John, Thomas, Tristram, Elizabeth, Aletheia, Helena, Duglas, Anne, Jane, Marie, & Ursula. Her Father dyed in December 1626. Her Mother dyed in December 1652, in the 88th Year of her Age. Marmaduke dyed in June 1631, who with his Parents, & this his Sister Jane, are hereby interred. He left three Sons and two Daughters. His eldest Son Cecil Tyrwhyt, Esq. is at present Lord of this Towne. Robert, the second Son to Robert, was an eminent Servant to King Charles. He dyed at Hampton Court Palace, in Janu. 1651, & lyes in that parish church, under a Marble Monument. Edmond, yet living, was a Gentleman Pensioner to King Charles. Francis dyed 1643, a Commander in the Wars in Ireland, and lyes buried in Christ Church, in the City of Cork. Thomas, Divine & Chaplain to the King. All the other Brothers dyed before their Parents. Elizabeth married Sir Ferdinando Lee, Knight, by whom she had one Son and 2 Daughters. She was a Lady of great Worth and Beauty. She dyed in the Isle of Man, 1625. Her Daughter Elizabeth married first Francis Burdit, Esq. then John Kay, Knight & Baronett. By both of them she had divers Children now living. These her two Husbands & her Father, had their Births and Estates in the West Riding of Yorkshire. The Tyrwhyts are of great Antiquity in this County of Lincoln, they have Married into many great Families, (as may

appear by the several Quarterings of a Coat of Arms hereby annexed.) One Sir Robert Tyrwhyt, Knight & Bannerett, was Vice Admiral to King Henry the 7th. Another of them was master of the Horse to Queen Mary. The Bassetts also in their Generations were of great Authority, having been Barons, & allyed to the Crown, & Companions of the Order of the Garter. But this Mrs. Jane Tyrwhyt's chiefest Greatness was her Humilitie, Chastity, Piety, & Charity, for which she and her religious Mother were incomparable Patterns to their Sex.

"In Memoria æterna erit Jestus. Hoc posuit huic Familie Amicissimus."

"Lo here she sleeps in sacred dust,
Until the rising of the just,
Until the bridegroom call and say,
Awake my love and come away."

Beneath the tablet is a shield, whereon have been depicted, in twenty compartments, the arms of the family, through its numerous alliances, but which are nearly obliterated. On the tablet are other coats of arms, much injured by the damp.

The font is merely a large circular stone, with a cavity at the top, and entirely without ornaments. A proof of great antiquity. The benefice is a vicarage valued in the king's books at £5. 4s. 2d. Patron Lord Monson. The village in 1821 contained 27 houses, and 142 inhabitants.

Well Wapentake.

The Wapentake of Well is situated south-west of the last noticed division. Its boundary on the west is the river Trent, and on the south Nottinghamshire.

Stow.

Stow, from the Saxon word, signifying The Place, is a small irregular village, situated in the hundred of Well, about eight miles south-east from Gainsburgh, and one hundred and forty-six north from London. It is about a mile distant from the ancient Watling-Street, the great Roman road from the eastern coast of the island to the north-western, through Little-borough, the Segelocum of the fifth iter and the Agelocum of the eighth, where was the Roman trajectus to Wheatley, Clayworth, Bawtry, Doncaster, &c.

Stow has a fair annually for horses and beasts, on the 10th of October, which is generally well attended; and a Court Leet and Great Court Baron, held under the Lord of the Manor, Sir William Amcotts Ingilby, Bart.

Sidnacester.

Stow has been frequently noticed, more on account of its supposed ancient importance, than for its present appearance: the Roman Sidnacester, and Saxon Lindis, the seat of several of the earliest Bishops of the English Church, being generally assigned to it. The truth of this opinion, however, has long formed a subject of controversy among antiquaries; nor has it yet, notwithstanding the attention that has been bestowed in investigating the point, been conclusively settled.

Various places have been mentioned during the controversy upon this subject, the principal of which it is necessary to specify, in order to form a proper understanding of the grounds upon which their several claims are founded.

The venerable Bede informs us, that Paulinus, after converting the Northumbrians, came into the northern part of the kingdom of Mercia. Successful in preaching the gospel, here he converted Blaecca, the governor of Lincolnia, or Lincoln, and baptized many people of this district in the river Trent, at a place called Tiovulfingacæstre. And Mathew, of Westminster, says, that over his new spiritual acquisitions Paulinus ordained a bishop, who had six successors. On the death of Eadulph, the see having been vacant eight years, Bishop Gibson observes,

BOOK IV. that it was united, by Leofwin, to that of Dorchester. But the question is, where was Sidnacester? Matthew, of Westminister, when speaking of two of its bishops, Ealdulfus and Ceolulfus, observes, "Hiantem episcopi ubi sedem haberent cathedralem penitus ignoramus." Wharton, in his "Anglia Sacra," asserts, that hitherto its situation has not been known. And Camden states, "This is now so entirely gone, that neither ruins nor name are now in being." Hence most antiquaries have adopted a general mode of description. One says, "It was near Gainsborough;" another, "In Lincolnshire, near the Humber;" and Camden, "In this part of the country;" while some are entirely silent. Others have, however, decided upon the situation of the place. Mr. Johnson thought it was Hatfield, in the county of York. Dr. Stukeley, at Newark-upon-Trent; which opinion Mr. Dickenson, in his history of that town, has adopted, and endeavoured to establish by additional, but unsatisfactory arguments, as will be hereafter clearly demonstrated. Dr. Pegge proposes to consider Kirkton, or Kirton, the place. Horsley, in his Britannia, Romana, after having fixed the Roman station, Causennæ, of Antonine's Itinerary, at Ancaster, supposes that place to have been Sidnacester, and the name derived from Causennacester, the first syllable being dropped, which makes Sennacester. Camden was inclined to fix it in the neighbourhood, if not upon the site of Gainsborough; and Bishop Gibson, at Stow. The latter place undoubtedly seems to have the fairest claim; and Mr. Stark the historian of Gainsborough has proved the superiority of that claim to those made in favour of the places previously named, by first appealing to the authority of Bede. "Eadhaed in provincia Lindisfarorum quam nuperrime Rex Ergfrid, superato in bello et fugato Ulfhere, obtinueral, ordinatur episcopus."* Of this province, which he afterwards calls Lindissi, he says, Eadhead was the first Bishop: The question now reverts, where was this Lindissi situated, and how far did it extend? Its bounds are, by the same writer, described with sufficient accuracy, to discover that it contained the tract of country still retaining the name of Lindsey. "Lindissi quæ est prima ad meridianum Humbræ fluminis ripam." So also Mathew, of Westminister, "Inter Lincolniam et flumen Humbri;" and further, "provinciam Lindisse regionis quæ est ad meridianam plagam Humbri fluminis." Higden also states, "Provincia Lindisfarum est idem quod Lindiseia, quæ jacet ad orientem Lincolniæ, cujus ipsa caput est." Here is given its northern boundary, the Humber; and its southern, or south-western boundary, the city of Lincoln. This will invalidate the claim of Hatfield and Newark, neither of these places lying within the division of Lindsey. The observations of Stukeley quoted by Mr. Dickenson, that the divisions of counties were not made till the time of Alfred; that then the wapentake of Newark was forcibly taken out of Lincolnshire; and that the Trent was the ancient, because the natural, boundary between that county and Nottinghamshire, are assertions which, if granted, would prove nothing in favour of his opinion; because the position on which his argument rests, that Provincia Lindissi was taken by our ancestors in so large a sense, that "It meant all Lincolnshire, whereof Lindum was the capital city," is unfounded, as appears by the definition of its boundary, above quoted from Bede, and other writers. Mr. Pegge's opinion, given in his dissertation on the subject,† that Kirton about midway between Lincoln and the station of Ad-Abum, on the Humber, was the place, is quite untenable.

* Hist. Lib. IV. c. 12.

† Printed in an Appendix to the First Volume of Nichols's History and Antiquities of Leicestershire.

Bishop Gibson's reasons for placing Sidnacester at Stow, are, if not decisive, at least extremely plausible. An abbey for secular priests was founded about 1040 at Stow,* and Eadnorth, the Bishop of Sidnacester, who died A. D. 1050, built St. Mary's, or the church of our Lady, at Stow. "Where then can we imagine," says Gibson, "a Bishop of Sidnacester should so probably build a church as at Sidnacester? Or whence should he sooner take his pattern or platform, than from his own cathedral of Dorchester?" The see of Legecester, or Leicester, is concluded to have been where St. Margaret's now stands; and as that is a peculiar, a prebend, and an archdeaconry, so is Stow. Besides, the present ecclesiastical privileges of this place are greater than any hereabouts, except Lincoln; and they have formerly even exceeded that. For that it was famous before Lincoln, and was a bishop's see, is beyond dispute; and it is a common notion in those parts, both of learned and unlearned, that Stow was the mother church to Lincoln. The steeple of the church, though large, has been much greater than it is. And Alfred Puttock, or Putta, Archbishop of York, anno 1023, when he gave two great bells to Beverley steeple, which he had built, and two others of the same mould to Southwell, bestowed two upon Stow."†

Mr. Stark remarks that the probability that the seat of this See was at Stow, is somewhat increased by the circumstance of Remigius, who was appointed successor to Wulfinus, or Wulfius, by William the Conqueror, re-edifying the church, or minister, as it appears previously to have been called, and conferring it upon the benedictine monastery situated there, or at least merging the one in the other. This shews so intimate a connection between Remigius, Wulfinus, and Stow, as can hardly be supposed to have existed, unless this place was the ancient seat of the See of Sidnacester, to which Remigius had succeeded.

The immense possessions, belonging to St. Mary of Stow in the surrounding country, and to which the Bishop of Lincoln succeeded in right of Wulfinus, must also be considered as no weak argument in favour of the claim of Stow. And it is not a little remarkable, that, in the enumeration of the property held by the Bishop of Lincoln in the county, as detailed in Domesday Book, that which he held at Stow, and in right of his predecessor, is first stated; thus leading us to suppose it a favourite and very peculiar place.‡

It is generally agreed, that whatever places have chester in their names, were formerly Roman forts or stations. Upon this view, the site of Sidnacester must either have been one, or in the vicinity of one. Close adjoining to the present Stow is Stretton, so named from being situated on the Roman road, which branches off from the one leading from Lincoln to Ad Abum, and proceeds in a westerly direction to the Trent, and thence on to Danum, now Doncaster.§

About three miles west of Stow, on the banks of that river, is the site of the ancient Sege-

* Remigius, the first Bishop of Lincoln, subsequently substituted Benedictine Monks in their stead; and his successor, Bloet, removed them to Eynsham, in the county of Oxford. This abbey was afterwards the seat of a branch of the ancient family of Burgh, some of whom are interred in the Church. There appears, also, to have been a nunnery here, which was founded by Godiva, the wife of Leofric, the great Earl of Mercia: but it probably existed only for a short time, and was merged in the abbey, as no further mention occurs respecting it, but that of its foundation.—*Stark*.

† Gibson, in Camden Col. 571.

‡ History of Gainsborough.

§ Beauties of England and Wales, vol. ix.

BOOK IV. locum of the fifth Iter, and the Agelocum of the eight. There Horsley fixes his station: for though he says that the present village of Littleborough answers to it, yet he observes "The Roman station has been on the east side of the river, though the town stands on the west. Roman coins have been found here, called Swine pennies, two Roman altars, and other antiquities."* Here was a Roman Trajectus, and it is still a place for passing the river, which, from the opposite village, is called Littleborough Ferry. In the summer season it is often fordable. About a quarter of a mile from Marton the Roman road is still visible; and several pieces of pavement have been found here. The ancient city might have stood more to the west; and, being built near the station, would of course obtain the addition of Castra, and Saxon Ceaster.

Present Appearance. The present appearance of Stow bears little proportion to its former importance—it is indeed but "the shadow of a shade:" but on digging below the surface, the number of old foundations which are discovered, and the extent of ground about it, where they may be traced, leave no doubt of its formerly having corresponded in size with its great importance. Even regular pavements, thus marking the line of its former streets, are frequently turned up; and several Roman coins have at different times been found. The ancient palace of the Bishops of Lincoln, the ruins of which only now remain, is nearly a mile from the church of Stow, beyond the Roman road; which renders it more than probable that Stow itself formerly reached as far, and consequently, covered considerably above four times the quantity of ground it does at present. Nor is it of much importance, that no mention is to be found in any itinerary now remaining, of Stow or Sidnacester, because we find, that, except of the stations, little or no mention is made of intermediate places.

The form of Stow, divided into four regular streets, facing the cardinal points, shews that regularity, which is so peculiarly characteristic in the construction of Roman towns, and distinguishes it from every other place in the division.

Nor is it in streets alone that Stow bears evident marks of its antiquity and former importance. The church, or cathedral, as it was originally termed, which bears every characteristic of the presumed Saxon model, is unquestionably the oldest church in the division, and, therefore, not unappropriately termed by general tradition, independent of its connection with the Bishops of Sidnacester, "the Mother Church of Lincoln."

Church. It is built of stone, in the form of a cross, and was founded, as has been previously stated, about 1050, by Eadnoth, one of the latest Bishops of the See of Sidnacester.—The length from east to west, is one hundred and forty-six feet; the width of the transept, twenty-seven feet; of the nave, twenty-seven feet, six inches; and of the chancel, twenty-five feet, six inches. The chancel, which appears to have been vaulted, is of Norman architecture, with recesses of the same order, containing two semicircular pilasters on each side, exclusive of those at the corners, with chevron mouldings, resting on plain circular columns. The sides are nearly uniform in style and ornament; and from many parts being similar to what appears in Malmsbury abbey church, in the county of Wilts, it is probable that this part was rebuilt by Bishop Alexander, subsequent to the time of Remigius."

* Britannia Romana, p. 431.



On the floor of the chancel is an ancient monument of coffin shape, with a head or half bust, in relief, within an excavation. Inscribed are these letters :— CHAP. III.

+ALLEN----STOE
N-ERU--ID--

Against a pillar, on entering the chancel, is the following inscription, engraved on a piece of brass.

Aspice, respice, prospice.

In this chauncel lyth buried ye bodies of RICHARD BURGH, of Stow Hall, Esq. and ANNE his wife, descended fm the anct and noble familie of the Lord Burgh, Baron of Gainesborough, and next heyr male of that familie, and the said Anne was the eldest daughter of Anthony Dillington, of Knighton, in ye Isle of Wight, Esq. had 4 sons, viz. that noble and valiant soldyer, Sir John Burgh, Collonel Gen'rall of his Majs. forces to the isle of Rhe, in France, where he was slain A. D. 1627.

Against the south wall of the chancel is a mural stone, thus inscribed :

Neare unto this place lyeth buried the bodyes of Mr. Thomas HOLBECH,* that sometyme dwelt in Stowe Park, with Anne his wife, daughter to Anthony Yoxley, of Mellis, Esq. which said Anne deceased the 7th day of Sept. An. Dom. 1581, and the sd Thos. decd the 16th day of April, 1591. And they left issue one only son, named Edward.

Within the chancel are two stones with Saxon characters upon them, but nearly obliterated. Under the tower there formerly was a large flat stone, inscribed in old letters, M CCC II.

The pulpit is of oak, and curiously wrought; the clock is a piece of ancient and particular mechanism, the pendulum vibrating only every three or four seconds. But the most interesting object after the church, is the curious ancient font, which stands upon a platform, ascended by two steps. The base is square, on which is carved a figure, in relief, of a wivern or dragon, intended, probably, as a personification of Satan, and allusive to his fall by the efficacy of christian baptism. The shaft is circular, and surrounded by eight short pillars, with foliated capitals. The upper part is octagonal, and each face or side has an ornamental device. There is unfortunately no date or inscription upon the font, to determine the time of its erection; but it is probably nearly as ancient as the original structure of the church, being evidently entirely Saxon.

The tower, which is embattled, rises from the centre of the building, and diminishes towards the battlements. It stands upon four Gothic arches, within Saxon ones; the former of which have been added at a later period, when, upon the low Saxon lantern, a tower was superadded. At the top of the tower, on one side is the figure of a saint, and on another that of a bird,

* This Thomas Holbech was probably a son of Bishop Holbech, who, for his ready concurrence in the arbitrary measures of Henry VIII. had been advanced to the See of Rochester, and thence translated, in 1547, to Lincoln, on condition that he should give up the episcopal estates; to which he must have readily agreed, as, before he had been a month in possession, he confiscated all the principal manors belonging to the See, as well as the episcopal palace at London, and whatever else the court required, leaving his successors no other residence than the palace at Lincoln, and reduced his bishopric from one of the richest to be one of the poorest in the kingdom. From the circumstance of Stow-Park being in the possession of his descendants, it is not unlikely but that it was conferred upon him in personal possession, as a small share of the spoils of the church, and an acknowledgment of his ready concurrence with the rapacious disposition of the monarch and his courtiers. Some of the descendants of the family at Holbeach, resided at Burton, near Lincoln, (the present seat of the Monson family); and there is a mural monument to one of them in the church there.—*Stark's Gainsborough.*

which is now much mutilated. Alfric, who was Archbishop of York in 1023, gave two great bells to this church.

The western, northern, and southern entrances exhibit beautiful specimens of the early Norman or as some antiquaries contend Saxon style: but the two latter are concealed by wooden porches erected before them. The western door-way is formed by three retiring columns on each side, with chevron mouldings round the circular arch, which rests on square abaci. Two of the shafts are plain, the other octagonal, with zig-zag ornaments.

The windows, which were originally in the circular form, have been replaced by others in the pointed or Gothic, at a later period, but are all of them without painted glass, a circumstance irreconcilable with its general use in the ninth and tenth centuries, unless we suppose, what is by no means improbable, that they were carried away to enrich and beautify the more favoured cathedral of Lincoln.

Stow is a peculiar jurisdiction under the Prebendary, and a visitation is annually held there. It is a perpetual curacy, which was augmented by the late Dr. Harcourt, but its value is still very inconsiderable, not exceeding £40. per annum.

There is a small Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, and a school endowed with £12. per annum.

A fair is held here on October the tenth for cattle, toys, &c.

Near the church are two sides of a quadrangular moat, which it is supposed surrounded the old manor-house.

To investigate the cause that produced the gradual decline of Stow, would occupy more of our space than can be conveniently spared. Suffice it to say, that the removal of the See to Lincoln, appears to have been a principal one. Nor has it been exempted from those more common misfortunes, under which almost every town in the kingdom suffered during the early period of English history, as well as those unforeseen calamities which sometimes level the finest buildings with the dust. About the 22d Henry II. 1156, there appears to have been a most extensive conflagration, as we find, that, in the 23d year of that prince's reign, the Sheriff of Lincolnshire accounted for xx marks, and two marks of argentum blancum, and seven penny-weight of gold, found at the burning of Stow.*

In 1216, Henry III. remained at Stow while his army went to Lincoln, and defeated that of Lewis of France, at which time it is more than probable it was still a place of some consequence, though the civil wars of that period might assist in its devastation.

From this time, it appears to have sunk nearly into insignificance, as we find no further mention made of it, either during the Lancasterian disputes, or in those civil wars, which, as they are nearer our own times, are more generally interesting.

About a mile to the south-west stands Stow-Park, the former residence of the Bishops of Lincoln, as well as the original abbey. Little remains of the original building, but considerable foundations have been found, and there are still traces of a large moated place, which inclosed the Bishop's palace. The Bishops of Lincoln appear to have resided occasionally here

* Madox History of the Exchequer, folio, 1711, p. 234. "Willielmus de Marton reddit compotum de xx marcis, pro denarijs & inventis in combustione de Stowa; In Perdonis, per breve regis, Galfrido Lincolnensi Electo xx marcæ.—Et Q. e." —*Mag. Rot.* 23. *H.* 2. *Rot.* 7 *a. Linc.*

Idem Vicecomes reddit compotum de ij marcis in argento bl. et de auro ponderis vij denariorum, de inventis combustionis de Stowa. In thesaura liberavit in ij tallijs, Et Q. e.—*Ibid*

till the latter part of the 14th century, as their letters and other documents are frequently dated from their palace at Stow. John D'Alderby, who was consecrated in 1300, died there January 5, 1319. CHAP. III.

Normanby. NORMANBY, distinguished from other villages of the same name by the appellation of Normanby-by-Stow, being a hamlet to that parish, which it adjoins on the north-west, is a separate constablewick, and in 1821, contained 6 houses, and 21 inhabitants.

Sturton. STURTON-IN-THE-STREET, anciently called Stretton or Street-town, from its situation on the Roman road branching from the Ermin-street to Agelocum, or Littleborough ferry. It is a hamlet and constablewick to Stow, on the eastern part of which parish it is situated. The number of houses in this place in 1821, was 53, and of inhabitants 268.

Bransby. BRANSBY is also a hamlet to Stow, from which it is distant about a mile and a half on the south. It is a separate constablewick, containing 75 inhabitants.

Newton. NEWTON is situated about ten miles westward from Lincoln, on the road from that place to Dunham-ferry. The living, a rectory valued in the king's books at £4. 10s. 10d., is in the patronage of T. Smith, Esq. In 1821, the parish contained 57 houses, and 295 inhabitants. The church, which has undergone extensive repairs, contains nothing of interest.

Kettlethorpe. About nine miles westward from Lincoln, is the village of KETTLETHORPE, which was once the seat of a family named Hall. It afterwards became the residence of Sir Wharton Amcotts, baronet, whose grandson Sir William Amcotts Ingilby, baronet, M. P. is now the possessor. The house contains several good paintings. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a modern structure, containing a monument to the memory of Charles Hall, Esq., who died in 1743, aged 53, and of his sister, who died in 1707, aged 30; also another to the memory of the Reverend Hugh Palmer, who was twenty years rector of this parish, and died in 1799. The benefice is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £28. Patron Sir W. A. Ingleby, bart. In 1821, Kettlethorpe with the adjacent hamlet of Laughterton, contained 35 houses, and 201 inhabitants.

Fenton. The village of FENTON is situated about nine miles west by north from Lincoln, on the lower road from that place to Gainsborough. Though a separate constablewick, it is but a hamlet to the neighbouring village of Kettlethorpe. In 1821, Fenton contained 33 houses, and 198 inhabitants.

Marton. The village of MARTON is situate about six miles from Gainsborough, on the Roman road, now called Tillbridge-lane, which leads from the Ermin-Street to the river Trent, in this parish, where is a ferry to Littleborough, the Agecolum of the Romans, on the opposite bank. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a neat modernized building. The living is a vicarage valued in the Liber Regis at £4. 13s. 4d. Patron the Bishops of Lincoln. There is also a place of worship for the Wesleyan Methodists. In 1821, this parish contained 81 houses and 395 inhabitants.

Gate Burton. About five miles south of Gainsborough, is the village of GATE BURTON, where amidst the most agreeable scenery, and surrounded by plantations, is the seat of William Hutton, Esq., by whose father the mansion was erected about the year 1765. It is a plain building of brick, but of a colour so nearly resembling stone, as at a distance not easily to be distinguished from it. The grounds are terminated on the west by the river Trent, to which there is a gentle though irregular descent from the house, of nearly half a mile. In the pleasure ground to the north-west of the mansion, is a summerhouse, which though not of regular architecture has an agreeable effect; it is erected on the summit of a cliff, the foot of which is washed by the river,

BOOK IV. winding beyond it with peculiar beauty further than the eye can reach. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £8. 10s. 10d. Patron W. Hutton, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is a small modern erection. In 1821, the village contained 15 houses, and 110 inhabitants.

Knaith. KNAITH is a very small village, on the eastern bank of the river Trent, about three miles south from Gainsborough, and fourteen north-west from Lincoln, which was once the property and residence of the Barons Darcey, and afterwards of Lord Willoughby of Parham.

Nunnery. In this parish was the Cistertian nunnery of Heyninges, or Hevenynge founded by Raner Evermue, about the year 1180. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and consisted at the time of its dissolution, of a prioress and twelve nuns. At that period its revenues were valued at £40. 5s. 2d. according to Dugdale, and £58. 13s. 4d. according to Speed. The site was granted to Sir Thomas Henneage, knight, by Henry VIII. in the 31st year of his reign. The chapel, now remaining, contains two windows with rich branching tracery, presenting a good specimen of the architecture of the period of Richard the second. This building appears to have been originally of greater size than at present. It is now used as the parish church. The octagonal font, of the same date as the windows, is very neatly wrought. The benefice is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at £7. 4s. 2d. Patron Sir W. A. Ingleby, bart. There is a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in this village.

The manor house, which is but indifferently built, stands very near to the church, looking towards the river. It was late the seat and property of Henry Dalton, Esquire, deceased; to whose memory a mural monument has recently been erected in the church. In 1821, Knaith contained 9 houses, and 59 inhabitants.

Upton. UPTON, which stands about four miles south-east from Gainsborough, contained in 1821, 39 houses, and 221 inhabitants. The church possesses no claims to attention.

Kexby. KEXBY, though a separate constablewick, is only a hamlet to Upton, from which it is distant about a mile on the south-east. The number of houses in 1821, in this hamlet, was 39, and of inhabitants 171.

Willingham. WILLINGHAM, commonly called Willingham-by-Stow, to distinguish it from other villages of the same name in this county, is distant about six miles from Gainsborough on the south-east, and contained in 1821, 61 houses, and 292 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is destitute of interest. The benefice is a rectory, valued in the Liber Regis at £18. 6s. 8d. Patron the heir of the late Rev. R. Wells. There is a Wesleyan Methodist chapel in this village.

Lawress Wapentake. The Wapentake of LAWRESS, is situated to the north of the liberty of Lincoln, and contains the following parishes and extra parochial places.

Greetwell. GREETWELL is a depopulated * village, on the north bank of the river Witham, about two

* The following observations by Mr. Marratt, are particularly deserving notice. "The melancholy solitude of this once populous little village, contrasted with what is was half a century back, cannot but excite our disapprobation of the modern system of destroying the cottages and small farms, and thereby banishing the robust honest Peasant to the mephitic atmosphere of the crowded manufacturing town, while his healthy labours are imperfectly supplied by the powers of machinery. By this selfish policy the happiness of one of the most valuable classes of society has been too generally sacrificed to the enriching a few overgrown tenants, and not unfrequently of some griping Steward, who can now manage the economy of a large Estate without the trouble of attending to small rents and repairs.—The residence of the parish minister may now easily be dispensed

miles eastward from Lincoln. It probably derives its name [illegible] whence issues a fine stream of water running on the west side of the parish to [illegible].

The earliest account we have of this place is in the great Norman Survey, from [illegible] appears that Roger de Busli was the principal land-owner. There [illegible] priest, and two fisheries of fifteen pence, one mill of five shillings, and sixteen [illegible]

In the time of Henry III. Robert Dayvill had the third part of a Knight's fee,* if the [illegible]

with, his simple flock being driven into a society where profligacy has long thrown off the veil [illegible] curtailed to the dimensions, and scarcely so well kept as a common stable, serves well enough to [illegible] service in, when the returning festival obliges him to ride over.

Dear Village! changed, how changed from what thou wert!
Thy good to bane, thy beggar-king's convert.
They say, that discontented with our lot,
We envy wealth, because we have it not;
That could we call yon glowing pile our own,
No wight alive would hear our tuneful groan.
They ask why writhes the serpent on our brow?
When prosper'd England as she prospers now?
They err. We envy not the pomp we see,
But hate that wealth which makes our poverty.
If talent thrive, and enterprise prevail,
Restore to rustic toil his beef and ale;
Be few, or many, splendid, as they can,
But let not misery make a fiend of man!

Yes, splendid mansions now those shades adorn,
But wretched children in those huts are born!
There dwells the heirs of unremitting toil,
Who till, but not in hope, a teeming soil;
While Erin's hordes contest with them the plain,
And competition low'rs the price of pain.
What though proud homes their lofty roofs uprear,
If humble homes and comfort disappear?
Oh, baneful splendour! that but glitters o'er
What may be ruin, and is bliss no more!
[illegible] fired on some far mountain's brow,
[illegible] o'er hamlets, black with plague below,
Where health once glow'd in every [illegible],
And in the motions of all forms was grace,
I look on pomp, that apes a bloated crew,
While beggar'd millions hate the [illegible]
Like rocks of ice our [illegible]
Not like the sea, that spreads those rocks around;
Hark! o'er their peaks a wild and bird-like [illegible]
Tells of approaching thunder, fire and hail!
Lo! at their feet, while cold and bright they sleep,
Mines hunger's fathomless and [illegible] deep!

[illegible] Splendid Village.

* Knight's service, *Servitium Militare*, was a tenure whereby several lands in this nation were held of the king, which drew after it homage, escuage, wardship, [illegible], &c. but taken away by 12th Charles II. [illegible] some land holden by knight-service is called [illegible], and land holden by Socage, *Bookland*. [illegible] so much inheritance as is sufficient yearly to maintain a knight with [illegible]; which in Henry the [illegible] days was £15. Sir Thomas Smith rates it at £40. By [illegible] 1st Edward [illegible] as had twenty pounds in fee, or for term of life might be compelled to be knights. But [illegible] was repealed 17th Charles II.—*Cowell.*

BOOK IV. honour of Tickhill Castle, which he held of the king in Capite. William de Cautilupe also held the third part of a Knights Fee of the King. Ralph lord Basset of Drayton died seized of this manor 13th Richard II., (1389) and leaving no issue, it passed by inheritance in the 4th Henry IV., (1402.) to Edmund Earl of Stafford, on the death of Joan widow of the above Lord Basset, who held it as part of her dower. It now belongs to the dean and chapter of Lincoln, but at what time it passed into their possession we have not been able to trace though it appears to have been before the 1st of Richard III. (1483.)

A branch of the Dallyson family were seated here in the reign of Queen Elizabeth: Bishop Sanderson, in his survey of monuments remaining in Lincoln Cathedral, before the great Civil War, noticed a gravestone there with an inscription and Latin verses, for John, third son of Thomas Dallyson of Greetwell Esq. who died the 4th of Oct. 1595.

Leland in his Itinerary says, "There hath beene of the Dalaunsons in Lincoln that hath beeno Menne of fair Lands many yeres syns; But of laters dayes they wer not of any great Landes; not passing a C li. or a C markes. I asked Doctor Dalaunson, Brother to the heire of that name that now is, but he could telle me litle of that name or of the cumming up of it in Lincolnshire. Mr. Sheffeild told me that Dalauson of Lincolnshire hath apart of the Vere of Lincolnshire that——of the house of Erles of ——de."

Church. The Church dedicated to All Saints, was a rectory till the year 1472, when it was appropriated to the choristers of Lincoln Cathedral; it is now a curacy, of which the dean and chapter are patrons. The fabric is a small ancient structure, consisting of a body and tower-steeple covered with tiles; the chancel has been much larger than it now is. Adjoining to it stands the Manor-house, the older part of which appears to be of the time of Elizabeth or James the I. but has been almost entirely rebuilt. This, and another large farm-house are occupied by the two Lessees under the dean and chapter, who farm the whole Lordship. The parsonage house is quite demolished.

Cherry Willingham. WILLINGHAM or Cherry Willingham is a small village about three miles east by north from Lincoln. At the time of the Domesday survey there was here "a church and a priest, and two fisheries of thirty-two pence, and forty acres of meadow. Value in King Edward's time one hundred shillings, now four-pence." In the 2nd of Edward II. (1308) the manor belonged to John Marmion. In the same year, Sir John Marmion Knight head branch of that noble family, obtained free-warren in all his Demesne lands at Willingham juxta Refham, Com. Linc. of which Manor he died seized in the 16th year of the same reign, (1322.) His family became extinct on the death of Robert his grandson, who left no issue. Here is a Copy-hold Manor, which belongs to Sir Gilbert Heathcote Bart.

Church. The church is a Vicarage dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul; the Rectory was appropriated to the Priory of Benedictine nuns, at Fosse near Torksey; this Living was long thought to be a perpetual curacy, not worth more than 10 pounds a year; it is now worth 100*l*. and is valued in the Kings books at £6 13s. 4d. Patron Mr. Ellis. About the middle of the last century Mr. Becke, rebuilt the church in a very handsome style; before that it was a mean old building, the side-aisles of which had been taken down. The present building is of fine freestone, with a leaden roof, and an octangular cupola of wood over the western pediment, for the bell, the inside is remarkably neat and is decorated with three marble monuments. One to the memory of Mary wife of Joseph Dell Esq. of Lincoln, (many years an alderman of the city) and daughter of John Becke Esq. who died 16th. Sept. 1795

CHAP. III.

aged 55 years. The larger one on the opposite side, to the memory of Thomas Becke Esq. of Lincoln, Founder and Patron of this church, he died the 19th of Oct. 1747. John Becke Esq his son died the 17th of Dec. 1763, aged 51 Thomas Kellet Becke, only son of John Becke died the 7th of April. 1780, aged 35. Judith Becke, wife of the above-mentioned John Becke, died the 30th of Jan. 1791 aged 75 years. Another to the memory of Mary Judith wife of Henry Hutton Esq. who died on the 23d day of Aug 1800 in the 42d year of her age. Beneath the floor is a vault, where all the deceased above mentioned lie buried The vicarage house a small thatched cottage, stands at the eastern extremity of the village.

Fiskerton.

FISKERTON is situated about 5 miles east from Lincoln the manor was granted to the Abbey of Peterborough by King Edward the Confessor, as appears by the following extract from a Latin charter in the Monasticon Anglicanum "Ego Edwardus, Dei Gratia Rex Anglorum, hoc testimonium antecessorum meorum postulante abbate Leofrico,* comprobavi et Villam Fiskertune quam regina mea ipso abbate Leofrico instante, per me dedit vel potius reddidit, juri Sancti Petri in Burgh concedo liberam, cum terris silvis et aquis, et omnibus rebus pertinentibus, &c."+ The manor has belonged to the cathedral church of Peterborough ever since it was granted as above.‡

From the same work it appears that Acharius, prior of St. Albans, afterwards abbot of Peterborough, about the year 1200 caused halls, chambers, and other edifices, to be built in several of the manors belonging to the conventual church at Peterborough particularly at Scotter Fiskerton and Gosberton.*

* Leofric was related to the Royal Family, and is said to have had not fewer than five abbeys in his hands at the same time,— Burton, Coventry, Croyland, Thorney, and Peterborough. He redeemed of King Edward certain lands belonging to the church, as Fiskerton for twenty marks &c

He was in the English army at the invasion of 1066, whence he returned sick to his monastery at Peterborough, and died 1073 —*Marratt*

+ I Edward, by the grace of God, king of the English, have allowed this evidence of my ancestors, at the request of abbot Leofric, and freely grant the town of Fiskertune, which my queen, at the petition of the said abbot Leoffric, had given or rather restored, to the right of *St Peter, in Burgh*, with all its lands &c. Witness the Queen, Eadgitha &c.

‡ This manor was regranted 33rd Henry VIII to the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough, on their new foundation, being part of the old possessions of the abbey Reepham Sudbrooke, and part of Scothorne, all manors adjoining, are of the same tenure; the Copy-holders paying suit and service in the court here; the land descending by inheritance in the same order as Free-hold, and being held at Fine-certain.

The valuation of these estates in 1541, on the foundation of Peterborough Cathedral, was as follows,

"Temporalities in the County of Lincoln.

	L	*s*	*d*
The Mannor of Fiskerton, over and besides the Spiritualitys is worth clear by Yeare	lxviij.	iij.	0
The Rentes and Fermes in Repham, Scothorne, and Sudbrooke be worth clerely by Yeare.	xl	ix.	x.

Spiritualitys in the County of Lincoln

The Spiritualitys within the Mannour of Fiskerton be worth clearly by Yeare."	0	xv.	[illegible]

* Dugdale's Monasticon, New Ed i. 348.

BOOK IV.

The Church.

The church dedicated to St. Clement is of ancient architecture, built of stone, and leaded. The chief part appears to have been rebuilt early in the fifteenth century, but some carved Norman arches remain on the north side of the nave and choir, and the door of the north aisle, is of the same early date, and very curious, having a flat arch inserted within a circular one. The nave is lofty and handsomely finished with battlements, but the windows of the north side, and the eastern one of the chancel, have been spoilt by cutting out the mullions, a mutilation too frequently performed by the ignorant guardians of our sacred structures.

The tower is remarkable for its firm and excellent workmanship, and unique in the plan of the lower story, which is a semicircular within, the western window is slightly embowed in the same sweep.

In the east end of the chancel is a mural monument, with the following inscription —

Josephus Sedgewick hujus Ecclesiæ Rector, et Lincolniensis Canonicus+ obiit 22. Sept. An. Dom. 1702 Ætat. suæ 74. Here is a fine brass figure in the chancel floor, but no inscription.

In the north aisle on a slab in the floor is an inscription to the memory of George Harrison Esq. who died Dec. 1st 1806 aged 57 years.

On another, Peter Lely gent. died in August 1761 aged 63 years.

The benefice of Fiskerton, is a rectory valued in the Liber Regis at £12, 1s. 8d. and is in the patronage of the dean and chapter of Peterborough.

The register, which is one of the oldest in England, begins A. D. 1539. Thomas Kendal and Ann Brown were married the 3rd. of November 1539.

The Manor-house, close by the church, is a plain farmhouse. In the Court-baron, annually held in this town, the ancient ceremony of the steward and the tenant holding each end of the Bailiff's staff, in all conveyances of land, is still in use.‡

A large brick mansion, fit for the residence of an old fashioned country Gentleman, was pulled down a few years back by the late Henry Thorold Esq. of Lincoln.

The rectors house was rebuilt about the beginning of the last century—it is now a Farm-house, and the duty is done by a curate.

On a rising ground eastward of the village is a handsome modern house, built of white brick and slated; it was erected by the late Mr. Geo. Harrison, a wealthy yeoman, whose father was many years a tenant of the manor-farm, and greatly distinguished himself in this neighbourhood about 60 years ago, by being nominal Plaintiff in a cause respecting the right of voting of those Free-men of Lincoln who were not born in the city. The cause was decided at the Assizes in Lincoln, in favour of the Plaintiffs, who had been deprived of the privilege of voting for nearly fifty years.*

Reepham

REEPHAM is a small village, about four miles from Lincoln, and one mile nearly East from Willingham.

+ Prebendary of South-Scarle. (*Willis.*)

‡ From hence comes the vulgar proverb of "a man getting hold of the wrong end of the staff" when he makes a bad bargain.

* Marratts Lincoln, Vol. 1.

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According to Testa de Nevil, in the time of Henry III. Richard de Cranton, held the 10th part of a knight's Fee of the Earl of Salisbury, and the earl of the King; also Richard Alycum and Alice de Nevill held the 4th part of a knight's Fee of John de Nevill, and he of Galfrid de Nevill, who held it of the bishop of Lincoln and the bishop of the king. The land is held by copy of Court-roll of the manor of Fiskerton under the dean and chapter of Peterborough.

Church. The church dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, a small mean fabric seems to have been reduced to its present size about a century back. The chancel has a window of the style of the fourteenth century, the tower is very low, this and the nave are leaded; the latter shows four arches on each side, anciently opening into the aisles. The base and steps of the cemetery cross remain yet in front of the south door. The vicarage house adjoins the church, a low mean edifice, thatched.

In the fifth of Edward III. (1331) leave was granted to the vicars of the cathedral church of Lincoln, to take the church of Reffam in Mortmain,* upon the condition that they kept three chaplains constantly to officiate in the chapel which some time belonged to those friars (viz. of the order, called *de Sacco*; in Lincoln,) for the soul of King Edward I.

But it seems doubtful whether this grant was carried into effect, as a vicarage was ordained in this church, in 1400, by Beaufort then bishop of Lincoln.† The Mercer's company of London are now impropriators in trust. The benefice is valued in the Liber Regis, at £6. 13s. 4d.

Barlings. Barlings is a small obscure village, situated about six miles eastward of Lincoln, and near to a river to which it gives name. In 1821 the parish contained thirty-three houses occupied by two hundred and forty-three persons. At this place an abbey for premonstratensian canons was founded by Ralph de Haya, in the year 1154. It was first situated at Barling-grange; but Ralph de Haya, having bestowed on the religious a more eligible spot called Oxeney, the abbey was removed thither; hence it was sometimes called the abbey of Oxeney, or *de Oxeniaco*, but generally Barlings. This foundation was afterwards much enriched by liberal donations from Alice Lacy, countess of Lincoln, Robert son of Hugh Bardolf, Walter Clifford and several others. On the dissolution in the twenty-sixth year of Henry VIII., the revenues of this house were rated, according to Tanner, at £242. 5s. 11d when the site was granted to Charles, duke of Suffolk. The tower of the abbey church, which was engraved by Buck in 1727, fell down about thirty years afterwards, and nothing of the building now remains, but a part of a wall and some mutilated columns; these were clustered, and the fragments show that they were richly ornamented with capitals of light and elegant foliage.

The celebrated Dr. Mackerel, who under the assumed name of Captain Cobbler, headed the Lincolnshire rebels in the reign of Henry the eighth, was abbot of this monastery, and a suffragan bishop. He was educated in University College, Oxford, where in 1508, he was admitted master of arts, and in 1516, became a doctor of divinity, in the university of Cambridge.

* Mortmain. The placing lands in the hands of religious persons; as the Superiors of Monasteries, Guilds, Colleges, &c. which required the king's licence, ever since a Statute of Edw. 1st was passed for that purpose, his licence was frequently purchased. *Marrat's Lincoln.*

† Pat. 2. Hen. IV. p. 2. M. 32.

BOOK IV. Upon the dissolution of the lesser monasteries, in 1536, or as is stated by others, on the imposition of an unpopular tax, Dr. Mackerel appeared at the head of nearly twenty thousand men in Lincolnshire; but on receiving intelligence of an army being sent against them, they forwarded to the king a list of their grievances, and on receiving a gracious answer from his majesty, they dispersed. The leaders in this insurrection where however taken, and Dr. Mackerel, with the vicar of Louth, in this county, and four other priests, and also seven laymen, were executed at Tyburn in 1537.

The ancient register or chartulary of this abbey is preserved in the Cottonian Library, in the British Museum.*

The benefice is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of J. Dixon, Esq. The church is a small modern structure erected principally out of the materials of the old one.

The manor of Barlings was once possessed by the Tyrwhits of the neighbouring village of Stainfield, and afterwards by a family named Boulter. It is now the property of Richard Ellison, Esq.

A school for poor children was founded here in 1711, and endowed with a rent charge of £10. per annum for a master.

The parish of Barlings includes part of the hamlet of Langworth, which stands about a mile to the north of the village, on the turnpike road from Lincoln to Horncastle, and derives its name from its situation, on what was formerly a *long-wath*, or shallow water, through which travellers were forced to wade. On digging to lay the foundations of a new bridge over the Barlings river at this place, in 1823, several spear heads, with some spurs and stirrups of a very antique shape were found.†

Fristhorpe. FRISTHORPE is a very small village, about eleven miles north-east from Lincoln, which in 1821, contained 11 houses, 45 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the dean and chapter of Lincoln, rated in the kings books, at £4. 10s. 0d., and endowed with £400. royal bounty. The church is an ancient building.

Buslingthorpe. BUSLINGTHORPE, which was anciently the seat of a family of that name, is distant about thirteen miles north-east from Lincoln, and three miles south-west from Market-Rasen. In 1821, this village contained only seven houses, and fifty-five inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory rated in the kings books at £2. and endowed with £200. royal bounty; it is in the patronage of the governors of the Charter House, London. The church, which is a small building, appears to have been much curtailed. It contains a tomb, partly covered by the pulpit, on which is the recumbent figure in chain armour of Sir John de Buslingthorpe, who, according to tradition, attacked and slew a dragon which infested the neighbourhood, and who had granted to him by royal favour, as a reward for his valor, a track of meadow land called Lissinglea, which adjoins the parish.‡ In the year 1707, a stone coffin was dug up

* Faustina, Book I. Folio 30.

† Weir's Lincolnshire, p. 100.

‡ The *draconteles*, or dragon slayers, of whom traditional accounts exist in many places, according to some, were persons who destroyed the wolves which once were numerous in this island. Others suppose them to have been men who by their skill or liberality carried on works of drainage, by which the floods were prevented from continually inundating the lands; the heads of these *hydra monsters* were thus cut off, and they were thereby hindered from again terrifying the people by their unwelcome appearance.—*Weir.*

on the north side of the church, the lid of which contained the half length figure in brass of a knight in armour, inscribed in old French, to Sir Richard, son of Sir John de Buslingthorpe, but had no date. CHAP. III

Faldingworth.

FALDINGWORTH is distant about twelve miles north-east from Lincoln, and about four miles south-west from Market-Rasen. The benefice is a rectory, rated in the kings books, at £15. 8s. 1½d. and is the patronage of earl Brownlow. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a modern erection. In 1821, this village contained thirty-eight houses, and two hundred and twenty inhabitants. At this place is a school, endowed with an annual salary of five pounds, for a master.

Snarford.

SNARFORD is a small obscure village, about ten miles north-east of Lincoln. In 1821 this place contained 8 houses, and 64 inhabitants; this village was once the seat of the ancient family of Saint Paul, the last of whom died in the year 1613, and his widow was afterwards married to an earl of Warwick. Of the mansion no traces are now remaining.

Church.

The benefice is a rectory, rated in the kings books, at £4. and endowed with £200. royal bounty, in the gift of the sub-dean of Lincoln.

The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, is a small building, in the chancel of which several of the Saint Paul family are interred. On a brass plate in the floor is a latin inscription to the memory of Johanna the wife of John Tourney, Esq., of Cainby, and daughter of John Saint Paul Esq., of Snarford, who died in 1521. On the south side of the chancel is a large marble monument, on which are the recumbent effigies of a man in armour, and a lady, each holding a book in their hands; over the figures is a canopy, on the top of which are several kneeling figures, and around the edge of the table on which the figures are laid, is an inscription in Latin, to the memory of Sir Thomas Saint Paul, who died in 1582. On the north side of the chancel is another large monument containing the figure of a man in armour, reclining on his right side, his head resting on his hand; a little below him is the figure of a lady in a similar position; in a niche beneath is the recumbent figure of an infant; and over the figures is a tablet, containing the following inscription:

"Here lyeth the body of Sir George Saintpaule Knight and Baronett, who was the ninth heire male by linealle discent (that hath possessed this house and manor of Snarford) from John Saintpaule, Esquire, who married the daughter and heire of Sir John Snarford, Knight. This Knight Sir George married Francis Wray, one of the daughters of Sir Christopher Wray, Lord Chief Justice of England: hee had by her onlie one daughter Mettathla Saintpaule, who died before she was two years old. Hee adopted Mr. George Saintpaule, sonne and heir of John Saintpaule Campsale Esquire, his heire to the greatest parte of his landes, and the rest he gave to his nephew Philip Terwhit, Esquire, and to charitable uses. Hee builded and furnished this house of Snarford, lived in great honour, and died in much comfort when he was LI years old and odd daies, the XXVIII of October MDCXIII."

Against the wall by the side of the above monument, is another, containing the busts of a man and woman in relief, under which is an inscription without date, "To the everlasting memory of the Right Honourable Robert Rich, Baron of Lees, earl of Warwick, and of the Ladie Francis his wife." On the floor is an inscription to the memory of George Brownlow Doughty, of Snarford, Esq., who died in 1745, aged 58.

Welton.

WELTON is situated at the distance of about six miles north by east from Lincoln, and in 1821, contained 86 houses, and 481 inhabitants.

Church.

The church which was rebuilt, excepting the tower, in 1823-4, possesses no claims to

BOOK IV. attention. In this parish are five prebendal estates, belonging to the chapter of Lincoln cathedral.

The benefice is a discharged vicarage, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean and chapter of Lincoln, is rated in the kings books at £7. 6s. 8d., is endowed with £200. royal bounty, and £200. private benefaction, in the patronage of the prebendaries of Welton, in the county of Lincoln.

Here is a small chapel for Wesleyan Methodists.

Dunholme. DUNHOLME is about seven miles north-east from Lincoln, and in 1821, contained 38 houses, and 220 inhabitants; was once the residence of a family named Grantham, a portion of whose seat now forms part of a farm-house. The living is a rectory, rated in the kings books, at £4. 6s. 8d., and endowed with £200. royal bounty. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Chad, is a small ancient structure. In the chancel of the church is a monument commemorative of Robert Grantham, of the Black Monkes, near the city of Lincoln, born 1541, and which was erected by himself, but does not contain the time of his death: at the top is his figure in a kneeling posture.

A bead court is held twice a year, when ten shillings and a coat each are given to six poor men.

Scothern. SCOTHERN is distant about five miles north-eastward from Lincoln; and in 1821, contained 77 houses, and 366 inhabitants. The church dedicated to St. Germain, is a very neat modern erection. The living a discharged vicarage, rated in the kings books at £4. 5s. 2½d. and endowed with £800. royal bounty, is in the patronage of the earl of Scarborough.

Sudbrooke Holme. SUDBROOKE HOLME is situate about five miles east from Lincoln, upon the turnpike road leading from that place to Horncastle. In 1821 this parish contained 12 houses, and 103 inhabitants. Here was formerly the seat of the Beresfords, a family long since extinct, but now is in the possession of Richard Ellison, Esq., formerly one of the representatives in parliament for the city of Lincoln, whose father built the present mansion. The benefice is a rectory, rated in the Liber Regis at £7. 10s. 0d. in the patronage of the Bishop of Lincoln. The church dedicated to St. Edward is a very plain brick building, in the floor of which is a stone to the memory of Anne, the daughter of Sir Edward Ascoghe of Kelsey, and late wife of William Beresford, of Holme, who died in 1678. In the church yard is the remains of an old cross.

Nettleham. NETTLEHAM is situated about four miles north-east from Lincoln, and in 1821, contained 95 houses, and 572 inhabitants. This village once contained a palace of the bishops of Lincoln, of which there are now no remains. Bishop Russell, who was lord chancellor in the time of Richard III. died here in 1494. The living is a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the chancellor of the cathedral church of Lincoln.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a neat building, and consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel and a western tower. The interior does not contain any monument or memorial particularly requiring notice.

Here is a small place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists, and a school for poor children supported by subscription.

Riseholme. The village of RISEHOLME, which stands about three miles north from Lincoln, contains the

handsome seat of Francis Chaplin, Esq. The living is a discharged rectory, rated in the kings books at £4. and in the patronage of the Mates and Fellows of Baliol College, Oxford. BOOK IV.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is totally demolished, and part of the lordship called Graingo de Ligne, is extra-parochial.

About two miles north by west from Lincoln, is the village of BURTON, containing 33 houses, and 186 inhabitants. Here, in a finely wooded park, is the seat of Lord Monson whose family formerly resided at the adjacent village of South Carlton. Of this family was, Sir William Monson, a naval captain in the time of queen Elizabeth, who distinguished himself in several expeditions against the Spaniards, and was knighted at the siege of Cadiz, by the earl of Essex. He took a carrack of sixteen hundred tons, at Cazimbria, near Portugal, and for that gallant action was made an admiral; he wrote an account of the Spanish wars from 1585 to 1602, stood high in fame at the commencement of the reign of James the first, and died shortly after. Burton Monson family

Sir John Monson, baronet, and knight of the Bath, was also a member of the same family, who rose to great eminence in the law. During the troubles between Charles the first and his parliament, he attended that monarch, and assisted in all his councils and treaties. After suffering much for his attachment to his sovereign, his estates being sequestered, he purchased the privilege of retirement, at the expence of £2642. In his seclusion he wrote "An Essay upon afflictions," "An Antidote against the Errors of Opinions," and "Supreme Power and Common Right." John, the fifth baronet of this family, was by George II. created Baron Monson, of Burton, in Lincolnshire; from whom the present lord is the fourth in lineal descent.

The benefice is a rectory, valued in the Liber Regis at £11. 15. 2½d. Lord Monson patron. The church dedicated to St. Vincent, was rebuilt in 1795, is a small neat structure, and has eleven acres of land belonging to it, for repairing and beautifying it. In the floor of the chancel, is a stone containing a latin inscription to the memory of Robert Sutton, Esq. who died in 1545. Another contains an inscription to the memory of Christopher Randes, Esq. (grandson of Bishop Holbeach,) who died in 1639; and against the north wall is a small monument, containing the kneeling figures of the above Christopher Randes, his wife, and eight children. Church.

SOUTH CARLTON, which stands about three miles north by west from Lincoln, contained the principal seat of the Monsons, previous to their removal to Burton. In 1821 there were 194 persons occupying 26 houses in this parish. The ancient mansion is demolished, and a farm-house is erected on its site. South Carlton

The benefice is a perpetual curacy in the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean and chapter of Lincoln, endowed with £600.; it is in the patronage of the Monson family.

The church which was extensively repaired in 1812, is a neat edifice. On the north side of the chancel is a chapel, beneath which is a vault, wherein are interred several of the Monsons, and which is still the burial place of the family. In the centre of the chapel is a tomb inscribed in latin, to the happy memory of Sir John Monson, knight, who died in 1593, and Lady Jane his wife, who died in 1624: their effigies in alabaster lie upon the tomb, and around were the kneeling figures of a numerous family, which were broken by the puritans during the civil war in the time of Charles the first. A large mural tablet, which was broken by the fall of part of the chapel, commemorates Sir Henry Monson, baronet, who died in 1718, Church.

aged 65; and a marble slab the Lady Elizabeth his widow who died in 1725. There is also a marble tablet to the memory of John George, the fourth Lord Monson, who died in 1718.

The noble family of the Monsons have endowed a school here, which is under their exclusive controul.

North Carlton

About a mile northward of South Carlton, is the village of NORTH CARLTON. In 1821, it contained 26 houses, and 171 inhabitants. Here is a mansion apparently built in the reign of Elizabeth, or James the first, and which was once the seat of a branch of the Monson family.

The benefice is a perpetual curacy, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean and chapter of Lincoln, endowed with £400. royal bounty, and £200. parliamentary grant. Patron, Lord Monson.

Church.

The church is a neat modern erection, in the floor of the chancel of which are two brass plates: one of these without date, marks the burial place of Sir Robert Monson, knight, the third son of Sir John Monson of South Carlton, who purchased the North Carlton estate after the death of his father. The other plate contains a memorial of Edward Monson, Esq. eleventh son of Sir John Monson, of Burton, baronet, who died in 1714, aged 46 years.

Scampton

SCAMPTON, situate about five miles northward from Lincoln, in 1821 contained 33 houses, and 238 inhabitants. The village is situated about a mile distant from the Roman way called the Ermin-street, which forms the eastern boundary of the parish. Another Roman road, now called Tillbridge-lane, leads diagonally through the parish, from the Ermin-street to the river Trent, opposite to Littleborough, the Agecolum of the Romans.

Roman Villa

In the year 1795, the remains of a roman villa was discovered in a field south-east of the village. It was situated on the brow of a range of cliffs which pass through the parish, and included an area of two hundred square feet. From the number of apartments, which were upwards of forty, and the dimensions of some of them, with their painted walls and tesselated pavements, it appears to have been a villa of considerable elegance and distinction. Of thirteen tessallated pavements found here, only one was entire, which was composed of four large compartments of square and oblong forms, elgantly diversified.* The walls were of great thickness, and various Roman antiquities were found scattered over the foundations. In two of the rooms were discovered skeletons, which, from some of them lying upon the foundation walls, others being inclosed in rudely formed stone coffins, and all placed in a position due east and west, it may be concluded that a Saxon, or other christian chapel, had been erected on the site of the villa. This conclusion is supported from the circumstance of its being upon record, that a chapel dedicated to Saint Pancras did exist, as early as the commencement of the twelfth century, upon that spot, near to a chalybeate spring, still called Saint Pancras's well.

Manor.

The manor was granted by William the Conqueror to the celebrated Gilbert de Gaunt, who is stated to have possessed one hundred and thirteen manors in Lincolnshire. Gilbert de Gaunt and his successors, at different periods, made considerable grants of land in this parish, to the abbeys of Bardney and Kirkstead, and also to the priory at Norwich. After-

* This pavement was unfortunately destroyed by the severity of the winter of 1815—16, An engraving of it is contained in "Illingworth's Topographical Account of Scampton."

wards the abbey of Bardney, and the priory of Norwich alienated to the abbey of Kirkstead, all their lands in this parish; and in the reign of Henry the Second, the abbey of Kirkstead had, by repeated donations, become possessed of the whole lordship, and so continued until the dissolution of monasteries, when this manor was granted unto Charles Duke of Suffolk. After the death of the Duke of Suffolk, the estate passed through the hands of several proprietors, until the year 1590, when it came into the possession of Sir John Hart, Knight. then Lord Mayor of London, whose eldest daughter became the wife of Sir George Bolles, Knight, Alderman, and afterwards Lord Mayor of London, to whom the estate descended on the death of Sir John Hart, in 1603. Sir George Bolles and his descendants enjoyed the estate until 1749, when it was alienated to William Cayley, Esquire, a descendant of whom, Sir George Cayley, Baronet, is now the proprietor.

Hall.

Scampton Hall, the seats of the lords of this manor, was erected on the site of the west grange, belonging to Kirkstead abbey; but upon the death of the last Sir John Bolles, in 1714, his sister and heiress suffered the family mansion to fall into ruins. It was seated in the centre of a small park, and part of the old walls, are incorporated with those of a farmhouse, near which an ornamental gateway is still standing, built about the time of James I. and probably coeval with the mansion. It is an archway, having over it an entablature, supported on each side by double columns of the Doric order, with ornamented knobs on the shaft.

The living is a rectory rated in the King's books at £8. 16s. 8d. in the patronage of Sir George Cayley, Bart.

Church

The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a small building, having been considerably reduced in size, in the year 1794. Several of the family of Henry Fitzwilliam, Esq. lie interred in a vault, on the south side of the chancel, over which are brass plates with armorial bearings, and one containing an inscription to the memory of Frances, wife of Henry Fitzwilliam, who died in 1581. In the wall on the north side of the chancel are two brass plates, with inscriptions to the memory of Sir John Bolles, Baronet, who died in 1648, and lady Catherine his wife, who died in 1644, both of whom are interred in a vault beneath.

In 1821, this parish contained 33 houses, and 238 inhabitants.

Aisthorpe.

AISTHORPE, or East Thorp, is a small village, about six miles north by west from Lincoln. The living is a discharged rectory, with the vicarage of Thorpe-in-the-Fallows, rated in the Liber Regis at £4. 10s. Patroness, Mrs. Mangles. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a small uninteresting edifice. Henry Amcoates, a native of this parish, was Lord Mayor of the city of London in the year 1548. In 1821, the parish contained 12 houses and 76 inhabitants.

West Thorpe.

WEST THORPE, or Thorp-in-the-Fallows, is a parish adjoining to Aisthorpe on the north-west, and distant from Lincoln about seven miles. In 1821 it contained 8 houses, and 69 inhabitants. It is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster. Having no church, the vicarage is united to the rectory of Aisthorpe.

Brattleby.

BRATTLEBY is situated about seven miles north by west from Lincoln, and in 1821, contained 21 houses, and 157 inhabitants. The benefice, a discharged rectory, rated in the King's books at £7. 10s., is in the patronage of the Master and Fellows of Baliol College Oxford. The church, dedicated to St. Cuthbert, contains no object deserving particular notice.

CHAP. III. About five miles north-west from Lincoln is the small village of BROXHOLME, which, in 1821, contained 24 houses, and 148 inhabitants. The living is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £9. 10s. Lord Monson is patron. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small humble edifice.

Saxilby. SAXILBY is situate on the north side of Foss-dike about six miles westward from Lincoln. In 1821, this parish, including the adjacent hamlet of Ingleby, contained 110 houses, and 561 inhabitants. The benefice, a discharged vicarage, rated in the King's books at £10, and endowed with £200. Royal bounty, is in the patronage of the Bishops of Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. Botolph, is a neat building, having been extensively repaired. It contains an hexagonal front, each face of which bears a shield, on which armourial bearings are sculptured. Here is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists.

Torksey. TORKSEY is situated near to the junction of the Foss-dike canal with the river Trent, at the distance of about eleven miles north-west from Lincoln, and seven miles south from Gainsborough. In 1821 this place contained fifty houses and 267 inhabitants. Though now but an obscure village, it is a place of high antiquity, and formerly was of considerable consequence. Dr. Stukeley supposes that this was a Roman town, built at the entrance of the Foss-dike, to secure the navigation of these parts, and as a storehouse for corn.

During the Saxon Heptarchy, Torksey was a place of importance, and tradition says it was on the declining sandy shore at this place, that Paulinus baptized the Lindisians, in the presence of Edwin, king of Northumbria, according to the venerable Bede; and here doubtless was the Tiovulfingaceater of that author. Previous to the Norman conquest, it appears from the Domesday survey, that this place contained two hundred burgesses, who enjoyed several privileges; for which they were bound, when the king's messengers came this way, to convey them in their own barges to York, the sheriff supplying them with provisions.

Priory. A priory of Augustine canons, was founded here by king John, and dedicated to St. Leonard. The prior and convent were fined to the king a palfrey, for the confirmation of their grants, and that they might not be obliged to plead except before the king himself. It contained only four religious persons, at the dissolution of monasteries, when its revenues were valued at £13. 1s. 4d.; according to Dugdale, and £27. 2s. 8d. according to Speed. In the 35th year of Henry VIII., it was granted to Sir Philip Hobby. There was also another monastic establishment here, called the Foss Nunnery, of the order of Saint Benedict, which was founded by the inhabitants of the town, in the reign of king John, the privileges of which were confirmed by Henry the third. Its revenues at the dissolution were valued at £7. 3s. 4d. according to Dugdale, and £8. 5s. 4d. according to Speed; and in the 5th year of Edward the VI., it was granted to Edward Lord Clinton.

Castle. On the south-west of the village, and about sixty yards from the river Trent, are the remains of a building to which the name of the Castle has been applied, but it is denominated the Old Hall, by the inhabitants of the village. These remains exhibit a western front, with four turrets, placed at unequal distances, and a fragment at the south end originally part of the offices. The building is of brick, but the quoins and battlements are of stone, and the apartments which were contained in it appear to have been spacious. As there is no appearance to indicate that any outworks ever existed, it was probably intended as a magnificent residence, rather than as a place of defence.

WAS

According to Leland, the old town of Torksey, was situated on the south of the present village; and at the period when he wrote his Itinerary, it was described as having two churches. It now has but one, which is a small convenient building, in which are preserved some stone coffins, which had been found in digging near the site of the Augustine priory; and also a stone on which is the figure of a female, with an inscription without date, to the memory of Margaret de Multon, who was once the superior of the Foss Nunnery, on the site of which the stone was found.

The ancient charter of the place is still preserved, by virtue of which it enjoys the privilege of a fair on Whit-monday, and a toll on cattle and goods.

About the year 1550, Edmund Jermyn, Esq. then lord of the manor, gave an annuity of forty pounds, out of his lands in this parish, to the poor of Bury in Suffolk. When Buck took his view of the remains of the old hall, in 1726, the manor belonged to Sir Jermyn Davers; it afterwards became the property of the Duke of Newcastle, by whom it was sold to the father of the present proprietor, Sir Abraham Hume, Baronet.

Wapentake of Wraggoe.

The wapentake of WRAGGOE is situate on the south-west of the Hundred of Louth Eske, and is sub-divided into two parts, which are called the west and east divisions.

Wragby.

WRAGBY, from whence the hundred derives its name, is a small market town, situated nearly in the centre of the county, at the distance of eleven miles eastward from the city of Lincoln, and about ten miles westward from Horncastle. In 1821 it contained 93 houses and 633 inhabitants.

Manor

The manor anciently formed part of the barony of Trusbut, from the last male heir of which family it was conveyed to that of the Manners', dukes of Rutland; whence by marriage it came to George Villiers, duke of Buckingham, who obtained from Charles the second, a charter to hold at this place a weekly market, and two annual fairs. In the year 1674, the manor passed by purchase from the duke to Sir Edmund Turnor, of Stoke Rochford, who erected and endowed here an alms house for six clergymen's widows, and six other poor destitute persons, adjoining to which he also erected a chapel for their devotion, with an augmentation of forty pounds per annum to the vicarage for prayers to be read in it twice a day. The chapel of this charity was consecrated with great ceremony by Bishop Gardiner, in 1697. The manor still remains in the possession of the descendants of Sir Edmund Turnor.

The living is a vicarage united in 1735 to the rectory of East Torrington, and rated in the king's books at £8. 4s. 2d. Patron, E. Turnor, Esq.

Church

The church which is an old building contains nothing interesting. It stands a considerable distance south-eastward from the town; but from the appearance of the adjacent grounds, it appears formerly to have been surrounded by buildings, some of which were environed by moats.

Grammar School.

In 1636 the executors of the will of William Hansard, Esq. conveyed to Thomas Grantham, Esq. lord of the manor of Sandon in this parish, certain estates in Bilsby and other parishes, for the support of a free grammar school at this place, together with fifty pounds for erecting a school house; Thomas Grantham and his heirs to have the right of nominating the master after the first appointment. In the year 1701 Sir Edmund Turnor purchased of the Grantham family the manor of Sandon, and along with it the patronage of the school. Not succeeding as a grammar school, it is conducted by a master who teaches reading, writing, and arithme-

BOOK IV. tic. Boys are admitted when they can read the New Testament, and those whose parents rent less than ten pounds a year, are instructed in reading, writing, and the first four rules of arithmetic free of expence, but pay twenty shillings a year for pens, ink, and paper; and if they advance further, become pay scholars. The children of those who rent more than ten pounds a year, are only taught reading and writing gratuitously; they pay twenty shillings a year for stationery, and twenty shillings a year more when they begin to cypher.

The market, which is a very small one, is held weekly on Thursdays; and the fairs are held annually on Holy Thursday, and on the 29th of September.

Bardney. BARDNEY is a considerable village, distant about five miles southward from Wragby, and situate on the eastern bank of the river Witham, in a marshy district, formerly abounding with woods and swamps, but now fertile from the successful culture of many ages.

This place is celebrated in history for its monastery, which was one of the most ancient in the kingdom. It was founded in the time of the Saxon Heptarchy, and to it Etheldred, king of Mercia was a great benefactor. This monarch, in the year 1705, resigned his kingdom and becoming monk, was appointed the chief of this monastery, where he devoutly spent the last thirteen years of his life. According to Bede, Oswald, king of Northumbria, was buried here, and had a rich banner of gold and purple placed over his tomb, but the remains of that king, except his right hand, were removed by his niece, queen Ostrich, to the church of Gloucester, in the year 909. The hand was retained by the monks as a relique to which they attributed a miraculous power, with the view of drawing superstitious pilgrims to their house. To sanction the imposture, for deception and falsehood are inseparable, they pretended it was incorruptible, and had remained sound for centuries. In the year 870, the Danes under Inquar and Hubba burnt this monastery, and murdered the monks therein, about three hundred in number. After remaining above two hundred years in ruins it was rebuilt by Gilbert de Gaunt "the noble and devout Earl of Lincoln, who bountifully annexed to it beside other valuable possessions, the tithes of the whole of his extensive estates* It was filled with Benedictine Monks, and dedicated to St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Oswald the king and martyr. In the year 1406, king Henry IV, attended by a great number of courtiers paid a visit to this monastery, where they were received with great ceremony by the abbot and monks.+ at the dissolution of religious houses, the revenues of this institution were valued at £366. 6s. 1d. per annum, according to Dugdale, and £429. 7s. according to Speed The site came into the hands of Sir Robert Tyrwhitt. The abbots of this place had many privileges, being peers of parliament and were anciently styled lords of Lindsey

The moated area on which the abbey stood, is about half a mile north-west from the village; but of the buildings not a vestige is remaining. Near to the site of the abbey is a large barrow, in which it is traditionally stated that king Etheldred was buried, and on the top of which, a most sumptuous cross was erected to his memory

The living is a discharged vicarage rated in the Kings books at £7. and endowed with £1020. of which £600. was granted by parliament, £200 by royal bounty and the remainder by public subscription. The Bishop of Lincoln is patron.

* William of Malmsbury attributes the restoration to Remigius bishop of Lincoln. Gilbert de Gaunt was the benefactor: but the authority of the bishop being necessary, he was reported the founder out of mere courtesy.

+ See Leland's Collectanea, Vol. 6 p. 300. The registers of this abbey is preserved among the Cottonian MSS

CHAP. III.

Church.

The church dedicated to St. Lawrence consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a well built tower. In the chancel is a curiously wrought tomb stone, without any inscriptions In the floor is a stone inscribed in Latin to Gilbert Multon, who died in 1473. Another contains a memorial of Mary Frances Willoughby, daughter of Edward, the second son of Charles lord Willoughby of Parham; she was the wife of Henry Andrews, and died in 159—. Another contains an inscription in memory of the Rev. M. G. Blennerhaysett, who died in 1778. According to directions contianed in the will of this gentleman, about four hundred manuscript sermons were put into his coffin and buried along with him.

Alms Houses.

In this village are Alms Houses for seven poor men and seven poor women, which were founded and endowed in pursuance of the will of Peter Handcock of Bardney, Esq., dated the 11th of April, 1708. The endowment amounts to one shilling a week for each poor person with a gown or coat of grey cloth every two years. This sum has since been augmented by the rent of two cottages bequeathed to this charity, which allows an addition of about three-pence a week to each poor person. Mr. Handcock also bequeathed ten pounds a year to the vicar or minister of Bardney, for celebrating divine service in the church every forenoon. On the front of the Alms-houses, is a stone tablet with this inscription: IMPENSIS PETRI HANDCOCK ARMIGERI. The estate on which the endowment is charged, is the property of the earl of Harrowby, the lord of the manor, whose principal tenant and the vicar have the alternate nomination of the persons admitted into the Alms-houses, which nomination must be confirmed by the possessor of the estate.*

Free School.

There is also a free school in this place, which was founded by Mr. Thomas Kitching, of the neighbouring village of Tupholm. This gentleman by his will dated in October 1711 bequeathed certain lands for the endowment of a free school in Bardney, and for maintaining poor widows in the hamlet of Southrey, and putting out poor children of Southrey to trades. The annual rents of these lands at the time of the testator's death did not exceed twenty-five pounds, but now amount to one hundred and sixty pounds.

RICHARD BARDNEY, who was born at this place, became, when young, a monk of the order of Saint Benedict, and received his learning in the supreme faculty, amongst those of his own society at Oxford; after retiring to the monastery at this place, he wrote in latin verse the life of Robert Grostest, formerly bishop of Lincoln, wherein many fabulous things are inserted, and which he finished in 1508. He was highly esteemed for his learning.+

A town named Butegate, is mentioned in an old charter as adjoining Bardney, but nothing respecting this place is now known to distinguish it from Bardney.

Adjoining to Bardney and included within the parish, is the hamlet of Southrey, which according to tradition once possessed a church, but of which no traces are now remaining.

In 1821, the parish contained 161 houses, and 954 inhabitants.

Stainfield.

STAINFIELD is a depopulated village, distant about three miles southward from Wragby, in a country which still retains the forest-like appearance, which it must have possessed for many centuries. In 1821 it contained 18 houses and 103 inhabitants.

This place once contained a priory of Benedictine nuns, which was founded in the latter

* Weir's Lincolnshire, p. 284.

+ Woods Athenæ Oxonienses, p. 8.

BOOK IV. part of the reign of Henry II., by Henry de Percy.* At the dissolution of monasteries, this house contained ten religious persons, and their possessions were then valued at £98. 8s. per annum, according to Dugdale, and £112. 5s. according to Speed, most of which, with the site of the monastery, were granted to Sir Robert Tyrwhitt. No traces of the buildings are remaining. After Sir Robert Tyrwhitt had obtained possession of the estate of the priory, he erected a spacious mansion of stone, which continued to be the residence of the family until about the middle of the eighteenth century, when the house which, when entire had surrounded a court, fell into decay, and with the exception of the south front, was pulled down.+

Church. The church is a small modern structure, containing many mutilated inscriptions in the floor. The decalogue, the creed, and the lord's prayer, are in curious needle work, and are said to have been wrought by one of the ladies of the Tyrwhitt family. Some old armour is preserved in the church.

Apley. APLEY is situated about two miles south-westward from Wragby, and in 1821 contained 29 houses, and 139 inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £400. royal bounty, and rated in the king's books at £6. Patron, T. Drake, Esq. The chapel, dedicated to St. Andrew.

Church. The church is a very small mean building. The bell which now is placed over the west end of the building, formerly hung in a tree.

Goltho. GOLTHO, situated about a mile south-westward from Wragby, was formerly the residence of the Grantham family, one of whom built the present mansion. The estate passed by purchase to the Mainwarings. The living is a perpetual curacy, with Bullington, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the bishop of Lincoln, in the patronage of T. Mainwaring, Esq.

The church is a small modern building. In 1821, the parish of Goltho contained 15 houses, and 95 inhabitants.

Bullington. BULLINGTON is a depopulated village situated on the west of Goltho, with which parish it is united. It is distant about two miles westward from Wragby, on the turnpike road between that place and Lincoln.

Here was a Gilbertine priory which was founded by Simon Fitzwilliam, in the reign of king Stephen. Exclusive of the liberal endowment of the founder, this establishment received great benefactions from William de Kyme, Alexander de Crevequer, baron of Redbourn, and others; and at the dissolution its revenues were valued by Dugdale at £158. 7s. 11d. per annum, and by Speed at £187. 7s. 9d. In the thirteenth year of Henry VIII., its site and possessions were granted to Charles duke of Suffolk. It now belongs to J. C. Hatchett, Esq. The only remains of the buildings, is part of a wall which once formed a part of the steeple. In a wood at a short distance from the site of the abbey, are the traces of foundations, said to be the mansion of the Fitzwilliam family, and in an adjacent meadow are many moats, one of which surrounds a piece of land of large dimensions.

In 1821, Bullington contained only 7 houses, and 45 inhabitants. Here is a Chapel dedicated to St James

* Tanner is of opinion it was William de Percy.

+ A drawing of this house in its original state, is in possession of Mr. Drake Tyrwhitt Drake, the present possessor of the estate. A view thereof is also contained in the background of Buck's engraving of Barlings abbey.

Stainton.

STAINTON is an obscure village, situated about six miles north west-ward from Wragby, and is generally called Stainton by Langworth, to distinguish it from two other villages of the same name, in this division of the county. In 1821, the parish including the hamlets of Reasby and Newball, contained 35 houses, and 182 inhabitants.

Church.

The church is a small modern erection, in the chancel of which is a monument commemorative of three individuals of the family of Sanderson, a branch of which had a seat at the hamlet of Reasby or Reresby in this parish. The monument is divided into three compartments, in each of which is the figure of a man kneeling at a desk; above is the family arms surmounted by a winged scull, upon which is an hour glass; and below is the following inscription:

"Two of one Name the Father and the Sonne namde Nicholas both surnamed Saundersons livde longe and died at Reresby but their heir Robert in youth left this terrestrial aire.

"Here laye their Bodies all dissolved to dust
"Heaven hath their Soules remaining with the just.

"The first Nicholas married Agnes daughter of Sir William Sandon, of Ashby near Partney in this county Knt. by whom having issue three sonnes viz. William, Nicholas, and Robert, and two daughters, he died very aged in the yere of our Lord God 1556. William died unmarried, Nicholas his second sonne after fifty yetes, married Elizabeth daughter of John Smith, of Hales, in Essex, esquire, by whom he had issue only Robert, and died almost 80 years old, the XVth daye of February 1575. Robert their sonne survived his mother and died unmarried, the 18th February, 1592 in the 22nd yere of his age, leaving his estate to his cosen and next heir Sir Nicholas Sanderson, of Fillingham Knt. and Baronet eldest sonne of Robert the youngest sonne of the first Nicholas, who caused this memorial to be made for them Ano Domini 1619—

"Cunctorum fines, mors vermis foned cinis."

In different parts of this parish, large quantities of human bones are often found. In the village is a free school founded and endowed by Edmund Boulter, Esq. for the instruction of the poor children of Stainton, Reasby, Newball, Barlings, and Langworth, in reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Snelland.

SNELLAND is a small village, about five miles north-westward from Wragby. The church is a small mean building. The parish in 1821, contained 22 houses, and 133 inhabitants.

Wickenby.

WICKENBY is situated about four miles north-west from Wragby, and in 1821, contained [illegible] houses, and 125 inhabitants. The church contains a brass plate, on which is an inscription to the memory of Henry Milns, gent. who died in 1635. In this parish is the hamlet of Westlaby, once the seat of the Elwes family.

Rand.

RAND is a small village, situate about two miles north-west from Wragby, at a short distance from the turnpike road between that place and Lincoln. The benefice is a rectory with Fulnetby rated in the Kings books at £8. 5s. 0d. and in the patronage of H. Hudson Esq.

Church.

The church dedicated to St. Oswald is a contracted building, the tower of which is covered with ivy. In the north wall of the nave is placed a female figure in stone, which has formerly been on the top of a tomb. In the wall of the chancel is a mural monument embellished with twenty-two shields of arms, and inscribed to Sir Vincent Fulnetby, knight, and his ancestors; he had two wives, and died in 1593. By the side of this is another monument on which are the figures of a man and woman kneeling at a desk, under which are those of two sons and three daughters, and below is an inscription to Sir Sapcoat Harrington, Knight, who died in 1630, and his two wives. A loose brass plate contains a memorial of

BOOK IV. William Metham, of Bollington, Esquire, and his four wives; he died in [illegible]. The walls of the chancel also contain tablets in memory of Anna wife of Charles Metham, of Bullington, Esquire, eldest daughter of Robert Dymoke, of Scrivelsby, esquire, who died in 1604. Dorothy wife of Sir John Leigh, of Ingolsby, Knight, and afterwards wife of Charles Metham, of Bullington, esquire, who died in 1613, Charles Metham, of Bullington, esquire, and Elizabeth his wife, the third daughter of Sir Vincent Fulnetby, who died in 1628; and of V. Barlow, the time of whose death is not mentioned. The chapelry of Fulnetby, in this parish, was once the seat of a family of that name. According to the returns in 1821, this parish at that period contained 15 houses, and 102 inhabitants.

Tupholme. The extra-parochial hamlet of TUPHOLME stands nearly a mile from the north bank of the river Witham, at the distance of about seven miles south-eastward from Wragby. In the reign of Henry II. an abbey of premonstratensian canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was founded here, by Alan de Nevill and Gilbert his brother, and endowed by them with their possessions in this place, together with estates in other parts of the county. This abbey also had numerous benefactions in lands and churches, from other persons, and the king gave a canal, so large that ships might pass between the Witham and Tupholme. These gifts were confirmed to the abbot and canons, by charter, from Henry III. in the twentieth year of his reign. At the dissolution of monasteries, this abbey contained nine religious, and its possessions were valued at £100. 14s. 10d.; In the 30th of Henry VIII, the site was granted to Sir Thomas Heneage.

Abbey. Of the abbey, a wall only is now remaining, the upper part of which appears to have formed a side of the refectory or dining hall. It contains lancet windows, and a small gallery, in which the person sat who read to the brethren during their meals a practice which was common in all monasteries, and anciently in colleges. The story beneath the refectory appears to have been vaulted, and was probably used as a cellar, Adjoining to the ruins is a farm house, which has been built out of part of the materials. The gate house, now gone, was standing when Dr. Stukeley visited this place in 1716.* The church has been long demolished. In 1821, the number of houses in this hamlet was 11, and of inhabitants 71.

Holton. The village of HOLTON, distant about three miles northward from Wragby, contains the seat of the Caldecots. The benefice is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £17. 10s. 10d. Patron E. Turnor, Esquire.

Church. The church dedicated to All Saints is an irregular structure, containing no monuments, although it has been the place of sepulture of the Caldecot family for many years.

Beckering. Annexed to this parish is the hamlet of BECKERING, which is traditionally said to have once had a church, the site whereof is not known. In 1821, the number of houses in Holton with Beckering was 26, and of inhabitants 142.

Lissington. LISSINGTON is situated about four miles northward from Wragby, and in 1821, contained 26 houses, and 183 inhabitants. The benefice is a rectory valued in the Liber Regis at £12. [illegible]d. 6s. Patron, the dean and chapter of York

* A view of it is engraved in the Itinerarium Curiosum.

The church is a small building, displaying some specimens of early Norman architecture. There is a place of worship for the Wesleyan Methodists in this village.

Legsby.

LEGSBY with BLEASBY is distant about five miles northward from Wragby. The benefice a discharged vicarage, valued in the kings books, at £6. 4s. 2d. is in the gift of Sir H. Melthorpe Bart. Its church dedicated to St. Thomas, is a small thatched building. In 1821 this parish, including the hamlet of Bleasby, contained 28 houses, and 231 inhabitants.

West Torrington.

WEST TORRINGTON is situated about four miles north from Wragby. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the Liber Regis at £4. Patron, the Bishop of Lincoln.

The church dedicated to St. Mary, is a small mean building. The parish in 1821, contained 24 houses, and 133 inhabitants.

East Torrington.

EAST TORRINGTON is a small village, distant about four miles north-eastward from Wragby. The benefice is a discharged rectory united in 1735 to the vicarage of Wragby, is valued in the kings books at £7. 10s. 10d.

Its church is an uninteresting structure. According to the returns in 1821, the parish at that period contained 18 houses, and 89 inhabitants.

West Barkwith.

WEST BARKWITH, commonly called Little Barkwith, is a small village about two miles north-eastward from Wragby, on the turnpike road between that place and Louth. The benefice is a discharged rectory valued in the kings books at £5. 5s. 0d. Patron, C. D. Holland, Esquire.

Church.

The church dedicated to All Saints, possesses no claims to attention. The register contains the following singular entry:—

"1719. Dec. 21. Nicholas Vicars was buried, in all probability, more than ninety years of age, for as he himself said, he guided Oliver Cromwell over Market-Rasen Moor in his return from the Battle at Winceby.

"Ehu: Fugaces labuntur anni etc."

The parish in 1821, contained 14 houses, and 93 inhabitants.

East Barkwith.

EAST BARKWITH, generally denominated Great Barkwith, is distant about three miles north-eastward from Wragby. The benefice is a discharged rectory, valued in the Liber Regis at £11. 10s. G. R. Heneage, Esq., patron.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, contains nothing interesting, but over the entrance on the south side is a niche, wherein is a statue of the virgin and child. In this village is the seat of Thomas Brailsford, Esq. According to the returns in 1821 the parish at that period contained 38 houses, and 195 inhabitants. The turnpike road between Wragby and Louth passes through this village.

South Willingham.

The village of SOUTH WILLINGHAM is situated on the road between Horncastle and Market Rasen, at the distance of about four miles north-eastward from Wragby. The benefice is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £13. 10s. 10d. Patron, G. R. Heneage, Esq.

Church.

The church dedicated to St. Martin, is a mean building, which has been reduced by the north aisle being taken away. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 39, and of inhabitants 202.

Hainton.

HAINTON is situate about five miles eastward from Wragby, on the turnpike road between that place and Louth. This village contains the residences of the Heneages, and has been in the possession of that family ever since the reign of Henry III. The seat, which is hand-

BOOK IV. some, contains several paintings, and some fine family portraits, particularly one of Sir Thomas Heneage, who was a member of parliament, and chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, in the reign of queen Elizabeth. The benefice is a discharged vicarage, in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the dean and chapter of Lincoln. It is valued in the king's books at £7. 10s. 10d.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat building, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a western tower surmounted by a spire.* On the north side of the chancel is a chapel, covering the family vault of the Heneages, and containing many monumental memorials. In the floor is a stone containing two figures in brass, and under them an inscription in Latin to John Heneage, Esq., who died in 1435, and Alicia his wife. In the north wall, over an old tomb, is a brass plate containing an inscription in Latin to John Henneage, Esquire, who died in 1530, and Katherine his wife. At the west end is a monument in memory of John Heneage, Esq., who died in 1559, and Anne his wife who died in 1587. Above the inscription are their figures in alabaster kneeling at a desk. In the centre of the chapel is an alabaster tomb, on which lies a figure in armour, with his hands in a supplicating posture, and a greyhound at his feet; the sides of the tomb are inscribed in Latin and English, to Sir George Heneage, knight, who died without issue, in 1595, leaving the inheritance to his brother William. On the south side is a monument, on which are the figures of a man and two women kneeling at a desk, and beneath them an inscription in memory of William Heneage, Esq., who died in 1610, and of his two wives the first of whom died in 1585, the other in 1596. On the same side is a tablet, inscribed to George Heneage, Esq., who died in 1659, George his son, who died in 1666, and George the Grandson, who died in 1692. At the east end is a monument in memory of George Heneage, Esq., who died in 1731, of Mary, his first wife, the daughter of Lord Petre, who died in 1701, and of Elizabeth, his second wife, the daughter of Sir Henry Hunloke, of Wengerworth, in Derbyshire; this momument is Embellished with the busts of the three individuals whose memory it perpetuates. At the same end is a monument by Bacon, ornamented with a group of children round an urn, and containing an inscription in memory of Frances Anne, daughter of General Ainslie, and wife of George Robert Heneage Esq., who died in 1807. Against the north wall of the chancel is a tomb, over which are the figures in brass of a man and two women, and under them the following inscription:—

"Hereunder lieth Sir Thomas Henneage knight chief gentleman of the prevey chamber to ye king of famous memorye kinge Henry the eight sonne & heyre of John Henneage esquire who married Katherine daughter of Sir John Skipwyth, knight, which Sir Thomas and Katherine had isshu, Elizabeth nowe being wyffe to the right honorable the lorde Willoughbye, of Parham, the said Sir Thomas Hennèage, departed this liffe the xxi daye of August in the yere of our lord god, m c c c c c l j j j upon whose soule Jhū have mecy. Amen."

In the north aisle is a tablet in memory of Francisca, wife of John Jenkinson of Wykham who died in 1732. In 1821, Hainton contained 34 houses, and 228 inhabitants.

* Mr. Gough forgot to include this spire with that of Linwood, when he observed of the latter "the church has a decent spire, the only one to be seen in a round of fifty-nine parishes hereabouts."—Additions to Camden vol. ii, p. 267.

Sixhills.

SIXHILLS is distant about seven miles northward from Wragby, on the road between Horncastle and Market Rasen. In 1821, the parish contained 23 houses and 141 inhabitants.

At this place was a Gilbertine Priory founded about the time of king Stephen by —— de Gulle or Greslie, an ancestor of Thomas de la Warre. The various endowments of this priory were confirmed to the nuns and brethren in the reign of king John. In this house Edward I. confined Mary the wife of Christopher Seton, and sister of Robert Bruce, king of Scotland, in the year 1306. According to Dugdale, its annual revenues were valued at the dissolution, at £135., and according to Speed, at £178. 8s. 9d. and in the thirteenth year of Henry VIII., it was granted to Sir Thomas Heneage, in the possession of whose family it still remains. No remains of the priory are to be found. The benefice of Sixhills, is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at £6. Patorn, G. R. Heneage, Esq. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small mean building.

Ludford.

The village of LUDFORD is situated on the turnpike road between Louth and Market Rasen, at the distance of about five miles eastward from the latter place, and contains two parishes, which are distinguished by the names of Ludford Magna, and Ludford Parva. From the number of coins and other Roman remains which have at different times been dug up here, it is supposed to have been a Roman station. In the years 1788 and 1789, Mr. Leman, and Dr. Bennett, bishop of Cloyne, traversed the Fossway from this place to Lincoln, and from thence into Devonshire.

The parish of Ludford Magna possesses a church which is a small mean building, dedicated to St. Peter. Of the church of Ludford Parva only the site is remaining.

The benefice of Ludford Magna is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £5. 18s. 4d., and is in the patronage of G. R. Heneage, Esq. The benefice of Ludford Parva is a rectory in the gift of A. Boucheret, Esq.

An annual fair is held at this village on the twelfth day of August. The river Bane, which rises near this place, takes a direction nearly south to Tattershall, where it falls into the river Witham. In 1821, these two parishes, with the adjacent hamlet of Tows, contained 81 houses, and 426 inhabitants.

The Wesleyan Methodists have a chapel in this village.

Kirmond le Mire.

KIRMOND LE MIRE is a depopulated village, in an obscure situation, at the distance of about five miles north-eastward from Market Rasen The benefice is a vicarage valued in the king's books at £5. Patron, E. Turnor, Esq.

The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is very much contracted, being only the chancel of the original building. It contains three stone stalls, and a tablet in memory of some children of Edmund Turnor, Esq., to whom the manor belongs. The number of houses in this parish in 1821, was 11, and of inhabitants 71.

Burgh upon Bane.

The village of BURGH UPON BANE is situated on the turnpike road between Wragby and Louth, at the distance of about eight miles eastward from the former place. The benefice is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £7. 10s. 10d. Patron, G. Lister, Esq.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is a small neat building, in the chancel of which is a pyramidical monument ornamented with busts, and inscribed to Thomas Pindar, Esq., lord of this manor, and sheriff of this county, and of London and Middlesex, who died in 1711,

BOOK III. and Ann his wife who died in 1779. Another monument contains a memorial of Thomas Lister, Esq., who died in 1783, Martha his wife who died in 1796, and Thomas Pindar Lister their son, who died in 1779. In this parish is the hamlet of Girsby, where, surrounded by extensive plantations, is the seat of Thomas Lister, Esq. In 1821, the parish contained 27 houses, and 128 inhabitants.

Biscathorpe. BISCATHORPE is a very small village, in an obscure situation, on the banks of the river Bane, at the distance of about eight miles eastward from Wragby. The benefice is a rectory valued in the Liber Regis at £5. 18s. 4d. and is in the gift of the king.

Church. The church dedicated to St. Helen, is a small modern building. The parish in 1821, contained 8 houses, and 37 inhabitants.

Benniworth. BENNIWORTH is situated on the road between Horncastle and Market-Rasen, at the distance of about six miles eastward from Wragby. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £23. 8s. 6½d. Patron R. Ainslie Esq.

The church is a mean irregular building, which is entered at the west end through a Saxon door-way, ornamented with chevron, billet, and other mouldings. A piece of land which belongs to this church, is traditionally said to have been bequeathed to it by a person, who, travelling in this part, when the country was in an uninclosed state, lost his way in a stormy night, and was saved from perishing by being attracted to this village by the sound of the bells. In this parish was dug up an urn, of imperfectly baked clay, evidently of early British manufacture.*

According to the returns in 1821, the parish at that period contained 47 houses, and 346 inhabitants.

Panton. PANTON is a small village, distant about two miles eastward from Wragby. The parish in 1821, contained 14 houses, and 83 inhabitants. It contains the seat of Edmund Turnor, Esq., which was built by Hawksmoor, a pupil of Sir John Vanburgh, in the year 1724. Since that time considerable additions have been made to it from designs of Mr. Carr, architect of York, and the adjacent country has been greatly improved by ornamental plantations. Amongst the portraits in the house is one of Sir Robert Cecil, K. G. earl of Salisbury, by Zuchero, and one of Sir Christopher Turnor, a baron of the Exchequer, by Sir Peter Lely.

The benefice of Panton is a rectory valued in the king's books at £12. Mr. Turnor is the patron.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small mean structure.

Sotby. SOTBY is distant about four miles eastward from Wragby, and in the year 1821, contained 23 houses, and 110 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £9. 10s. and is in the patronage of the crown.

The church, is a small uninteresting building, dedicated to St. Peter.

Langton. LANGTON commonly called Langton by Wragby, is distant about one mile south-eastward from the last mentioned town, and in 1821, contained 28 houses and 193 inhabitants.

The benefice is a discharged vicarage, valued in the Liber Regis at £4. 13s. 4d. It is in the patronage of Earl Manvers. The church is a modernized edifice, being with the exception of the tower rebuilt in the year 1766, is dedicated to St. Giles.

* It is engraved in Weir's Lincolnshire, p. 295.

Hatton

HATTON is a very small village, containing only 29 houses, and 165 inhabitants. The benefice a rectory valued in the Liber Regis at £7. 10s. 10d., is in the patronage of Colonel Sibthorpe.

The church, dedicated to St. Stephen, is an inconsiderable edifice, possessing no claim to attention.

CHAPTER IV.

TOPOGRAPHY OF THE WAPENTAKES OF GARTREE AND CANDLESHOE, AND THE SOKES OF BOLINGBROKE AND HORNCASTLE.

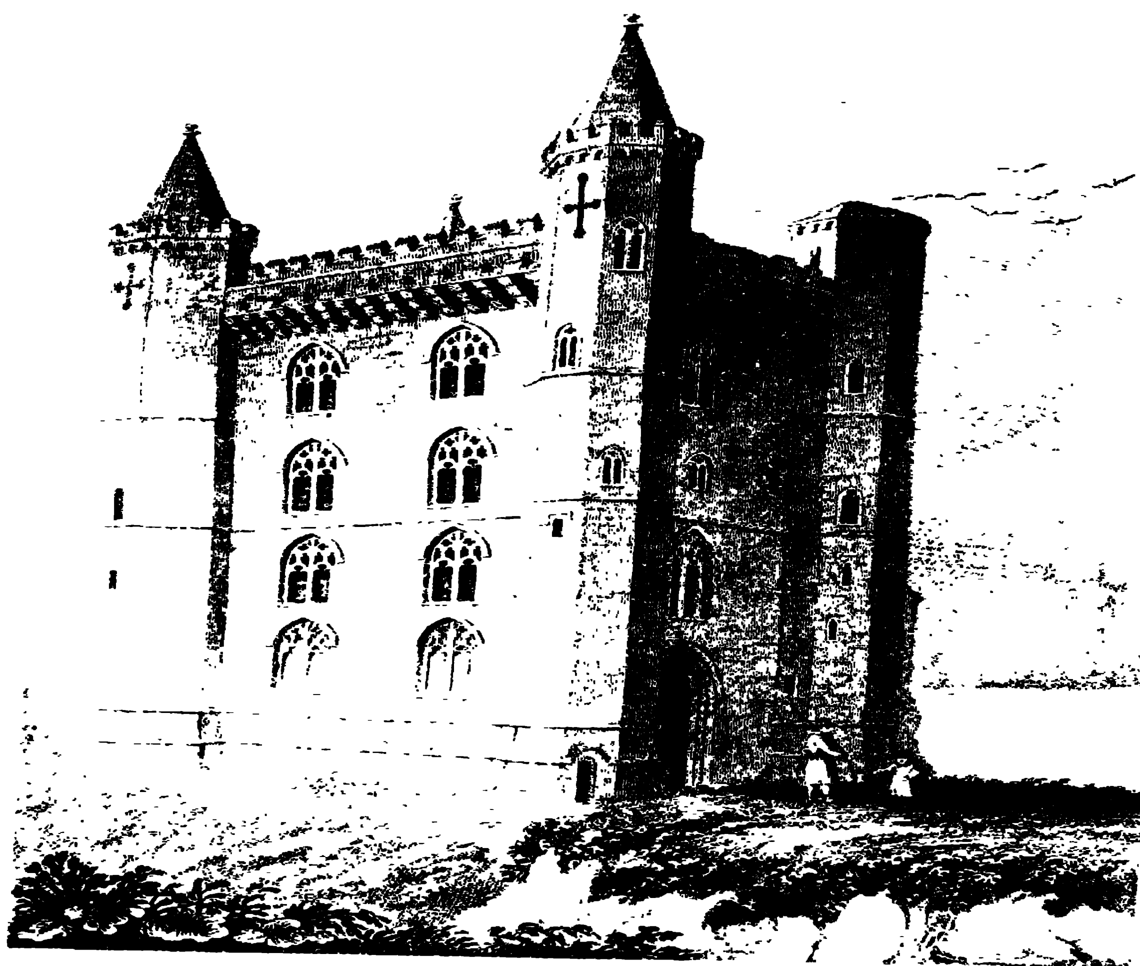
THE wapentake of GARTREE, is situated on the south-east of the wapentake of Wraggoe and is of considerable extent.

Tattershall. TATTERSHALL or Tateshall is a small market town, situated on the banks of the river Bane near its junction with the river Witham, and distant from the city of Lincoln twenty-two miles, from Boston fourteen, and from Horncastle nine miles. It is a place of considerable antiquity, being generally considered as the Durobrivis of the Romans, who used it as a summer military station; traces of two encampments of that warlike people being still visible, at a short distance from the town, in a place called Tattershall park. Several Roman coins have also been found in different parts of the parish

Manor. Shortly after the conquest, the lordship of Tattershall, together with several other estates was given by king William to Eudo and Pingo, two Norman nobles, who had attended him into England, but who, though sworn brothers in war, were not otherwise related. On the division of the estates between these chieftains, this manor became the property of Eudo who fixed his residence here. Upon his death his estates descended to his son, Hugh Fitz Eudo, who, in the year 1139, founded an abbey for Cisterian monks at the neighbouring village of Kirkstead.

Hugh was succeeded by his son Robert, who left issue a son named Philip. Philip, after serving the office of sheriff of Berkshire in the seventh year of the reign of Richard II., and also of Lincolnshire in the eighth, ninth, and tenth years of the same king, was succeeded by his son Robert, the second of that name, who, in the year 1201, procured from king John, by means of a present of a well-trained goshawk, a grant to hold a weekly market on Thursday, on this manor. Robert was followed by his son of the same name, who about the year 1230, obtained from Henry III., a licence to build a castle at this place, together with a grant of free warren in all his demesne lands. The male line of Eudo was continued in regular descent, by Robert the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh; upon the death of the latter of whom in his minority, it became extinct, and the inheritance was divided between his three sisters. Tattershall became the portion of Joan, one of the co-heiresses, who married Sir Robert Driby, and who had issue by him a daughter and heiress Alice, afterwards married to Sir William Bernack. John, the son of this latter marriage, was succeeded by William, who died a minor, and left his sister Maud his heiress.*

* Tattershall Guide, p. 2.



The Fitz Eudos', from this place, assumed the cognomen of Tateshall, and by that title. CHAP. IV.
were summoned to parliament among the great barons of the realm.

Maud, the heiress of the Barnack family, married Sir Ralph, afterwards Lord Cromwell, who, in her right, became lord of this manor; and upon his death, which happened on the twenty-seventh day of August, in the year 1398, left his son Ralph his heir, who died in 1416 and was succeeded by a son of the same name. In the year 1433, this latter Ralph was by Henry VI., appointed treasurer of the exchequer. He died without issue on the fourth of January, 1455; whereby his two nieces, the daughters of his sister, the wife of Sir Richard, Stanhope, became his coheiresses.

It does not appear into whose hands the Tattershall estate fell after the death of the Lord Treasurer Cromwell, until the year 1487, when Henry VII., granted the manor to his mother Margaret countess of Richmond, and in the following year entailed it on the duke of Richmond. The duke dying without issue, Henry VIII. in 1520, granted it to Charles duke of Suffolk, by letters patent, which were confirmed by Edward VI. in the year 1547.

On the death of the two infant sons of the duke of Suffolk, who survived their father only a short time, this manor again came into the possession of the king, as one of the heirs general of the family. By letters patent, dated the fifth of September, 1551, Edward VI. granted the castle with the manor, in fee, to Edward Lord Clinton and Saye, afterwards earl of Lincoln. The earl dying in 1584, was succeeded by his son Henry, who died in 1616, leaving issue a son and heir Thomas, who survived his father only two years, and was followed by his son Theophilus, who died in 1667. The next possessor was Edward, who was the grandson of Theophilus, and who died at Tattershall in 1692; in him terminated the male line of the Clinton family. Upon his death, without issue, the Tattershall estate became the property of his cousin Bridget, who married Hugh Fortescue, Esq. by whom she had a son and heir Hugh, created in 1746, baron Fortescue, and Earl Clinton. Upon his death in 1751, his half brother Matthew succeeded him, but dying in 1785, the Tattershall estate descended to his eldest son, Earl Fortescue, the present possessor.

Besides the liberties of the parks, chases and free warrens, belonging to the castle and manor of Tattershall, it also appears in the several grants of Henry III. Henry IV. Henry VII. Henry VIII. and in the grant of the liberties of Richmond fee, whereof the castle and manor of Tattershall is a part, that to the said castle and manor also belong the liberties of stallage, tolls of markets and fairs, together with the privilege for all tenants and inhabitants of Tattershall to be discharged of any tolls in fairs and markets abroad; also the sole liberties of fishing, fowling, hawking, and hunting, in all the said manors, chases and the precincts of them; also suits of courts baron, waifs, estrays, treasure trove, goods and chattels of felons, fugitives, men outlawed, and felones de se, deodands, bondmen, villains, with their sequels, and also that neither the sheriff of the county, or his bailiff shall arrest within the said manor, and that no distress taken therein shall be delivered, or replevins granted by the sheriff, but only by the steward of the lord of the said manor.*

About two hundred and fifty yards south-west of the town stands the remains of the castle, Castle.
a stately edifice, erected by the Lord Treasurer Cromwell, about the year 1440.

* Tattershall Guide, p. 1.

William of Worcester states, that the lord Treasurer expended in building the principal and other towers of this castle above 4000 marks; his household there consisted of one hundred persons, and his suite, when he rode to London, commonly of one hundred and twenty horsemen; and his annual expenditure was about £5000.*

This castle was originally intended as a place of defence, and was surrounded by two fosses, the inner one faced with brick, great part of which is now remaining. Formerly it was of great extent, but was dilapidated in the civil wars between Charles the first and his parliament; for the damages thereby sustained, Theophilus, fourth earl of Lincoln, petitioned parliament in 1619.

The part now remaining is a rectangular brick tower of exquisite workmanship, about one hundred feet in height, divided into four stories, and flanked by four octagonal turrets; and is raised on ponderous arches, forming spacious vaults, which extend through the angles of the building, into the bases of the turrets.† Under the crown of these vaults was a deep well, which is now filled up.

The walls are of great thickness, particularly that on the east side, in which are several galleries and narrow rooms, arched in a curious manner, through which communications were obtained with the principal apartments in the several stories, from the great stairs in the south-east. The east wall also contains the chimnes.

The windows are of the pointed order, well-proportioned, and contain tracery; those on the south, west, and north sides are large, and from them the principal apartments received light; those on the east are smaller, being designed to give light only to the rooms and galleries in that wall.

The main walls were carried to the top of the fourth story, where the tower was covered by a grand platform, or flat roof, which, together with the several floors, is entirely destroyed. Surrounding this part of the tower are very deep machicolations, upon which, and part of the main walls is a parapet of great thickness, with arches, intended to protect the persons employed over the machicolations. Upon these arches is a second platform, enclosed with a parapet and embrasures; above which the embattled turrets rise to a considerable height: three of them terminating in cones covered with lead. The cone on the fourth turret is demolished.‡

On the ground floor is an elegantly carved stone chimney piece, embattled, and ornamented alternately with arms, and treasury purses with the motto "Nay je Droit." The other stories also contain chimney pieces, ornamented with shields of arms.§

* Itinerarium, p. 162.

† Gough, and others who had copied from him, erroneously state this tower to be two hundred feet in height. Weir's Lincoln.

‡ Weir's Historical and descriptive Sketches of Horncastle. p. 87.

§ In the First Row.—1 Ten roundels. 3. A lion rampant to the sinister side. Fitz Alayn, or Bellers. 5. Vaire a fess. Marmion. 6. Ermine a fess. Barnack. 8. A bend and chief, Cromwell, quartering a cheque and chief Tateshall impaling a fesse dancette between ten billets. 10. Cromwell and Tateshall quarterly.

In the Second Row.—2 Bendy of ten. Clifton. 4. Deincourt. 5. Three cinquefoils, a dexter canton. Driby. 7. Barry of six, a bend. Grey of Rotherfield.

In the point of the surbase arch of this chimney-piece is the coat of Cromwell.

Over this is another embattled chimney-piece, adorned with the following arms and devices, in circles:

Between the castle and church stands an ancient brick building, which, from the style of architecture, appears to be coeval with the castle, and is now inhabited. On the west of the castle is another remain, apparently of the same date. Each of these buildings is situated between the outer and inner fosse.

The principal entrance to the castle, with its portcullis and towers, was standing at the north-east corner of the enclosure, when Buck made his drawing in 1726.

In the seventeenth year of the reign of Henry VI., a license was obtained from that monarch, directed to Ralph Cromwell, knight, and others, patrons of the parish church of Tattershall, in the county of Lincoln, empowering them to convert the said church into a collegiate church or college, in honour of the Holy Trinity, the blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Peter the Apostle, Saint John the Baptist, and Saint John the Evangelist. The establishment was to consist of seven chaplains, one of whom to be custos or master, six secular clerks, and six choristers. The licence further authorized them to erect a perpetual almshouse on their own ground, being parcel of the castle and manor of Tattershall, next to the church yard, containing ten acres, for thirteen poor persons of both sexes; with mansion houses and buildings for the said master, chaplains, clerks, choristers, and their servants; with cloisters, enclosures, gardens, orchards, and all other conveniences; and to assign the same to the said master and chaplains; who were to be a body corporate, and have a common seal for the execution of all business, with power to sue and to be sued, and to purchase, receive, and hold lands, tenements, and other revenues, ecclesiastical or secular, to the value of 200. per annum, over and above the advowson and yearly value of the said church of Tattershall, and the houses and ten acres of land aforesaid, without fine or fee to the king or his heirs. (Collegiate Church.)

The lord Treasurer, in pursuance to this license, began to convert the parish church into a college; but it appears that he died before it was finished, as, by his will, dated a short time previous to his decease, he bequeathed his body to be buried in the collegiate church of Tattershall, untill the whole fabric should be rebuilt, and then to be removed into the midst of the choir.

The church was afterwards finished nearly as it remains at this time; and mansion houses and other necessary buildings were erected for the use of the foundation, as well as the alms houses mentioned in the licence.* (Church.)

This college received several benefactions, and its possessions progressively increased to a considerable magnitude, being valued in the 26th of Henry VIII. at £318. 5s. 11d. per annum. In the thirty-sixth year of the same king, the whole was granted to Charles duke of Suffolk, who at that time was possessor of the castle and manor. (College.)

1. Treasury purse and motto. 2. Tateshall. 3. Saint Michael and the dragon. 4. Quarterly, Cromwell and Tateshall, impaling Deincourt. 5. Cromwell quartering Tateshall; crest, a helmet; supporters two wild men 6. Under an arch, a man tearing a lion. 7. A lion rampart to the sinister side. 8. Treasury purse and motto.

Above, between these circles, are seven small shields, with these arms: Deincourt, Driby, Cromwell, one broken, Cromwell, Tateshall, and Deincourt; and below seven purses.—*Weir's Guide to Tatershall Castle, an interesting little Work.*

* Among the inscriptions in the MS. of Lincolnshire church notes, taken by Mr. Gervase Holles, prior to the year 1640 now in the Harleian collection, No. 6829, are the names of several persons who belonged to this establishment.

BOOK IV. The church stands about eighty yards east of the castle, near the outer fosse, and is a beautiful and spacious stone structure in the form of a cross, consisting of a square tower, a nave with five arches on a side, and eight clere-story windows placed in pairs, a transept, and a choir. On the north side is a porch, on which are sculptured the arms of William of Wainflete, bishop of Winchester; formerly there were two porches on the south side also bearing the arms of the same bishop; but these have been some time since removed. Over the great eastern window is a richly ornamented niche, in which a statue once stood; the wall above the western door is likewise ornamented with thirteen blank shields. The cloisters, which were on the south side of the chancel, are entirely demolished.

In the south wall of the choir are three stone stalls and a piscina, with a cornice charged with various animals; on each side of the transept is also a piscina. There is a handsome rood-loft between the nave and choir, now used as a singing gallery.

The windows of the choir were once enriched with beautiful stained glass, which was removed in the year 1754, by the earl of Exeter, on condition that it should be replaced with plain glass; but this being neglected to be done, the choir remained about fifty years with unglazed windows; and being thus exposed to the weather, the elegantly carved oak stalls, the rich screens, and other ornamental work, fell entirely to decay.* The choir has been repaired and fitted up in a plain but neat manner.

The windows of the nave and transept were also enriched with stained glass, containing the legendary histories of St. Guthlac, St. Catherine, and other saints, and numerous heraldic insignia, a few fine fragments of which are preserved in some of the windows.

On the floor before the communion table is a stone which once contained a rich brass figure of the Lord Treasurer Cromwell, who died in 1455, habited in full plated armour and a flowing mantle and cordon, the gauntlets reaching to the middle joint of the fingers, a long sword across him from the middle of the belt, and at his feet two wild men with clubs, his supporters; by his side the figure of Margaret his wife; and over them a canopy charged with saints, and under them the following inscription:

Hic jacet nobilis Baro Radulphus Cromwell Miles D'ns de Cromwell quo'dm Thesaurarius Anglie et fundator hujus Collegii cum inclita consorte sua Margareta una herede d'ni Dayn=court qui quid'm Radulphus obiit quarto die mens. Januarij Anno D'ni Mill'o cccclij. Et p'dicta Margareta obiit xb die Septe'br Anno D'ni Mill'io ccccliij Quor' Aiab' pp'ietur Deus Amen.

At the four corners of the stone were shields containing these arms:

1. Cheque or and az. a chief ermine.—Tateshall. 2. A fesse dancette between ten billets.—Deincourt. 3. A bend and chief, Cromwell, quartering Tateshall. 4. Quarterly.—1. A bend between six cross crosslets, Stanhope. 2. Cromwell. 3. Tateshall. 4. ......+

The whole of these figures, the canopy, and the arms are gone and only half the inscription is now remaining.

* The principal part of the stained glass taken from this church was placed by the Earl of Exeter in the church of St. Martin, Stamford Baron, with some other richly stained glass, procured from the churches of Snape in Yorkshire, and Barnack in Northamptonshire.

+ Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, vol. ii p. 172.

On the north side of the lord Treasurer, is the figure in brass of Joan, lady Cromwell,* under a canopy adorned with saints, and under her this inscription,—

Orate p' a'ia Johanne D'ne Cromwell que obijt decimo die martij Anno D'ni mill'mo cccclxxix cuj' a'ie p'piciet' Deus Amen.

The corner shields, now gone, contained the following arms:—

1. Quarterly.—1 and 4. A cross engrailed between four waterbougets, Bouchier. 2. In a bordure France and England under a label of 3, Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester. 3. A fesse between ten billets, Louvain. Over all a label of three points impaling Cromwell quartering Tateshall.
2. A bend engrailed, Ratcliffe, impaling Cromwell quartering Tateshall.
3. Stanhope quartering Cromwell quartering Tateshall.
4. Stanhope impaling Cromwell quartering Tateshall.†

On the other side of the lord Treasurer is the figure in brass of Matilda lady Willoughby,‡ under a canopy charged with saints, and at her feet the following inscription:—

Hic jacet D'na Matilda nuper D'ni Willughby quondam uxor Roberti D'ni de Willughby militis ac consanguinea et heres illustris D'ni Radulphi nup' Dn'i Crumwell Militis fundatoris hujus collegii ac specialis benefactrix ejusdem collegij que obijt xxxo die aug' Anno Domini Mill'imo cccclxxxxvij cujus anime p'picietur om'p'ns Deus Amen.

The corner shields from this stone are also gone: they contained these arms:—

1 Quarterly 1 and 4............ 2 and 3. A spread eagle quartering a lion rampant impaling the lion rampant quartering Tateshall.
2. Quarterly.—1. Stanhope. 2. Cromwell. 3. Tateshall. 4........
3. A cross engrailed quartering a cross moline, impaling Stanhope.
4. A lion rampant impaling Cromwell quartering Tateshall.§

In the middle of the floor of the choir is the figure in brass of a priest, under which is the following inscription to the memory of William Moor, the second provost of this college.

Vir virtute vivens Will'us vulgo vocatus Moor micuit more mitis bene morigerat'
Hujus Collegii de Tateshale secundus Prudens p'positus et egenis semp' habundus
Hic Eboracensis fuit eccl'ie cathedralis Canonicus Rector ex de Levenham specialis
Sacre Scripture baccalaurius arte p'batus Jam sub tellure fit vermibus esca paratus
Octobris dena mensis cu' luce novena Mente pia morit' cujus corpus sepelitur
Mil' d'ni C quater l sexto continuat' Sp'us in celis ejus sine fine locatur.

* Joan Lady Cromwell was one of the daughters of Sir Richard Stanhope, and niece and co-heiress of the lord Treasurer Cromwell. She married Humphry Bouchier, third Son of the earl of Essex, who was created lord Cromwell, in the first year of Edward IV., and died in 1479.

† Sepulchral Monuments, vol ii. p. 267

‡ Matilda Lady Willoughby was the other daughter of Sir Richard Stanhope and niece and co-heiress of the lord Treasurer Cromwell, she died in 1497.

§ Sepulchral Monuments, vol. ii.

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A brass figure of a priest, about five feet long, with the figure of the deity on his breast, and several saints down his robe, is now loose in the choir. Mr. Gough, in his "Sepulchral Monuments," describes this as the figure of William Moor, and attached to the above inscription. On the floor between the nave and the choir is a brass figure much worn, under which, though scarcely legible, is this inscription:—

Hic jacet Hugo ....quondam .... D'ni Rad'i De Cromwell Militis D'ni De Tateshale qui obiit ultimo Die Septe'bris A'o D'ni mill'mo cccc xi cuj' a'ie p'piciet Deus Amen.

The south side of the transept is partitioned off, and used as a school, in which children are instructed on the plan of Dr. Bell.

The living is a donative, extra judicial, in the presentation of the the lord of the manor. It was once held by the Rev. Obadiah How, D. D. a man of considerable learning, and the author of several theological treatises: he died in 1685, and was buried in the church of Boston of which he was vicar. It was afterwards held for more than forty years by the Rev. Michael Taylor, who died in 1730, and was buried in the midst of the nave of this church.

The college, which was situated on the north side of the church, is entirely gone. The alms-houses remain, with a small endowment.

An old building in the town, supposed to have been the parish chapel, now forms part of a malting office.

The town has derived considerable benefit from the navigable canal, which passses through it from the river Witham to the town of Horncastle. A fine bridge of three arches having been thrown over the Witham in the place of the ferry, with a turnpike road to Sleaford, has also contributed to the improvement of the place.

By the returns made in the year 1821, it appears that the number of houses in Tattershall was 120, and of inhabitants 627.

There are two fairs holden annually at this place; one on the 15th of May, the other on the 25th of September. The market is now held on Thursday weekly.

In the market place stands an octagonal column or shaft, which was once surmounted by a cross. The cross has however long since been removed, and an urn substituted in its place The shields with which this column is ornamented, are sculptured with the arms of Cromwell, Tateshall, and Deincourt.

Tattershall Thorpe.

TATTERSHALL THORPE, though a separate constablewick, is merely a hamlet of the parish of Tattershall, which it adjoins on the north. In 1821, this hamlet contained 39 houses, and 269 inhabitants.

Kirkstead.

KIRKSTEAD, anciently called Cristed, is situated on the east bank of the river Witham, and is about three miles distant from Tattershall, and eight from Horncastle. Formerly it was a hamlet of Kirby-upon-Bane, but for many years it has been considered as a separate parish.

Manor.

The manor, with that of Tattershall, was among the several estates given by the Conqueror to Eudo, one of his Norman followers. His son Hugh Fitz Eudo, called the Breton, founded a Cistertian abbey here in 1139, and endowed it with his possessions in this place. The Cottonian manuscript Tiberius, c. viii. represents its site, upon a plain, hemmed in with brambles and marshes, and has received its name of Kirkstead prophetically, as the place of

a church, before the abbey was constructed there. The first inhabitants were from Fountain's Abbey, Yorkshire. Afterwards the monks, considering the situation unhealthy, petitioned Robert, the son of the founder, to allow them to remove the abbey to some other place, but though they obtained permission, yet it does not appear that the affair was proceeded in any further. The abbey had subsequently many benefactors, and acquired very extensive possessions.

On the dissolution, the clear revenue appears to have amounted to no more than £286. 2s. 7¾d.*

At the dissolution of religious houses, the Kirkstead estate was given by Henry VIII., to Charles duke of Suffolk; and on the division of his estates after the death of his two sons, who survived him but a short time, it reverted to the king as one of the heirs general of the family, and was subsequently given to Lord Clinton and Saye, afterwards Earl of Lincoln. This estate descended to Mr. Daniel Disney, in right of his wife Catherine, the youngest daughter of Henry Fynes Clinton, Esq., and grand-daughter of the second earl of Lincoln.

In the year 1792, it was sold by Mr. Disney Fytch, grandson of Mr. Daniel Disney, to Richard Ellison, Esq., of Sudbrooke Holme, near Lincoln.

Of the abbey a small ruin only remains: but from a plate of "The Ichnography of the Monastery of Kirsted Linc," in Stukeley's Itinerarium Curiosum, the buildings appear to have been extensive.

South of the ruin of the abbey is the chapel, a very curious building, which, according to tradition, was built previous to the monastery, but is evidently of a much later date. It is of early English architecture, having lancet windows at the sides and east end, and an ox-eye window over the entrance at the west end. The roof is beautifully groined, the ribs springing from corbel tables; and against the south wall on the inside, is a rude figure in stone of a crusader with the front part of his helmet in the shape of a cross. For many years the roof of this building was covered with thatch, but in 1790 it was removed, and a covering of tiles substituted. At that time also the bell, which had previously hung in a tree, was placed over the west end of the building.

This chapel is a donative of exempt jurisdiction, but appears to have had no stipend for the officiating minister, until it came into the hands of Mr. Daniel Disney, who being a presbyterian, appointed a minister of that persuasion to perform service there, with a salary of £30. per annum.† In order that the tenets which he professed might not want support in his parish, in 1720 he settled certain lands upon five trustees, the profits of which were to be applied to the maintenance of a presbyterian minister at this place. This gift he afterwards confirmed by his will in 1732, and in addition, bequeathed to the trustees the use of the chapel and chapel ground for the same purpose. On the death or alienation of the minister the trustees were to present the names of two to the lord of the manor, who was to appoint

* The register of this abbey is preserved among the Cottonian manuscripts, marked Vespasian E. xviii. A view and plan of the abbey may be seen in Stukeley's Itin. Cur. pl. xxviii.

† Dr. John Taylor of Norwich was one of the earliest ministers appointed by Mr. Disney. He held his appointment from about 1715, for eighteen years, and at this place composed his justly valued "Hebrew Concordance," in two vols. folio.

BOOK IV. one of them, and on his neglect or refusal, the trustees themselves were to make the appointment. Ministers continued to be nominated by the prescribed form until the death of a Mr. Dunkley, who had for many years received the bequeathed stipend, and whose demise took place in 1794. On that occasion the owner of the manor took possession of the estates which had been conveyed to the trustees, and appointed to the chapel a minister of the church of England, paying him £30. per annum. The trustees recovered possession of the estates by an action of ejectment, tried at Lincoln summer assizes, 1812, but not the chapel. A new chapel was erected and the presbyterian form of worship re-established here in 1822.

In the fourteenth volume of the "Archælogia" of the society of Antiquaries, is an engraving of an ancient iron candlestick of a very singular construction, six of which were found in cleaning the bed of the river Witham near this place.

This village contained, according to the returns of 1821, 24 houses and 132 inhabitants.

Kirkby. KIRKBY, commonly called Kirkby-upon-Bane from its situation on that river, is distant about four miles northward from Tatershall, and five miles southward from Horncastle. The living is a rectory in the peculiar jurisdiction of the manor court of Kirkstead, rated in the Liber Regis at £13. 13s. 6½d. and is in the patronage of the crown.

Church. The church dedicated to St. Mary, is a modern erection. Previous to its being rebuilt, it contained a stone pulpit. Here is a neat chapel for the Wesleyan methodists, and a school for the education of poor children, endowed with land bequeathed by Richard Brocklesby in 1713. The parish, in 1821, contained 53 houses, and 256 inhabitants.

Tumby. TUMBY is a hamlet of Kirkby, which it adjoins on the east. In 1821, it contained 63 houses, and 335 inhabitants. It is a separate constablewick.

Stixwold. The village of STIXWOLD, distant about seven miles southward from Tattershall, and about the same distance westward from Horncastle, once contained a priory of Cisterian nuns, which was founded by Lucy, relict of Ivo Tailbois, Ralph earl of Chester, her son, and Roger de Romara. This, being one of the lesser monasteries, came to the crown by the act of the 27th year of Henry VIII; but the king, in the 28th year of his reign, refounded it for a prioress and nuns of the premonstratensian order, and appointed it to be called "the new monastery of King Henry the eighth of Stixwold," endowed it with all the estates of the old one. This establishment continued only two years, when the dissolution took place, and in the thirty-second year of the same king, the estates were granted to Robert Dighton. Of the buildings, part of the porter's lodge is only remaining. The manor was once the property of Sir William Kyte, a baronet of a respectable family in Warwickshire, who, after squandering away an ample fortune, in a moment of hopeless perplexity set fire to his splendid mansion on the Cotswold hills, and was himself, with all its contents burnt to ashes. Previous to his death this manor was by him sold to Lord Anson, the circumnavigator. It forms part of the possessions of Edmund Turnor, Esq., of Stoke Rochford. The benefice is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £7. 10s. 0d. Patron E. Turnor. Esq.

Church. The church dedicated to St. Peter, consisting of a tower, nave, and chancel, contains a curious sculptured font. The parish in 1821, contained 38 houses and 214 inhabitants.

Bucknall. BUCKNALL, distant about five miles westward from Horncastle, in 1821 contained 39 houses and 241 inhabitants. The benefice is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £9. 11s. 10½d. Lord Monson, is patron.

Its church dedicated to St. Margaret, is destitute of interest. Here is a small endowment, the gift of an unknown individual, for the instruction of poor children, paid annually by the governors of Christ's Hospital London, as trustees.

Waddingworth.

WADDINGWORTH is distant about five miles westward from Horncastle. The benefice a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £7. 0s. 10d. is in the gift of the crown.

The church dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small modern building. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 13, and of inhabitants 59. Henry Hoberthorn, a native of this village, was lord mayor of London in the year 1546.

Gautby.

GAUTBY, distant about seven miles north-westward from Horncastle, has, for a series of years, been the residence of the Vyners. The mansion, which is situated in a well-wooded park, possesses no claims to architectural beauty. In the park is an equestrian statue of king Charles II., which was placed in Stock's market, in the city of London, in the year 1675 the gift of Sir Robert Vyner, at that time lord mayor. Prostrate under the royal horseman, and trampled on by his warlike steed, a figure is seen in Turkish drapery, which puzzled enquiring connoisseurs; they asked, and asked with reason, on what grounds of propriety or truth, our English king, whose warfare seldom extended beyond women and wine, could be graced with the trophy of a Turkish captive. Time, which unveils other mysteries, soon produced an explanation of this unappropriate accompaniament, the zeal of the loyal citizen was greater than his discernment; the statue which he purchased at a considerable expense, and erected in honour of a king of England, had been originally made to represent John Sobieski, king of Poland, who is mentioned as the saviour of Europe, at the seige of Vienna, and to whose statue a subdued Mussulman was a proper companion. After the demolition of Stock's market for the erection of the mansion house, this statue was given to a descendant of the worthy baronet, who placed it in his park at Gautby.*

The benefice is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £6. 3s. 4d. Patron, the king. The church, a small edifice, dedicated to All Saints. In 1821, Gautby contained 21 houses, and 118 inhabitants.

* The following song was circulated and sung through the streets, when the statue was taken down in 1738.

The last dying Speech and Confession of the Horse at Stock's Market.

Ye whimsical people of London fair town,
Who one day put up what you next day pull down,
Full sixty-one years have I stood in this place,
And never till now met with any disgrace.
What affront to crown'd heads could you offer more bare,
Than to pull down a king to make room for a may'r,
The great Sobieski on horse with long tail
I first represented, when set up to sale;
A Turk as you see was plac'd under my feet,
To prove o'er the sultan my conquest complete.
Next, when against monarchy all were combin'd,
I for your protector, Old Noll, was design'd.
When the king was restor'd, you then in a trice,
Call'd me Charley the Second, and by way of device,
Said the old whisker'd Turk had Oliver's face,

Minting. MINTING is situated about six miles north-westward from Horncastle. At this place was a priory of Benedictine monks, and cell to the monastery of Saint Benedict super Loire, which was founded in the year 1129, by Ranulph de Meschines, earl of Chester. In the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, it was granted to the dean and chapter of Westminster. No traces of the buildings are remaining.

The benefice is a vicarage valued in the Liber Regis at £5. 7s. 11d. Patron, the Master and Fellows of St. John's College Cambridge. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a mean structure.

In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 50, and of inhabitants 270.

Wispington. WISPINGTON, distant about four miles north-westward from Horncastle, in 1821 contained 16 houses, and 70 inhabitants.

The benefice is a discharged vicarage in the patronage of E. Turnor, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is an uninteresting building.

Horsington. HORSINGTON is situated about four miles west from Horncastle, and in 1821 contained 53 houses, and 322 inhabitants.

The living is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £9. 11s. 8d., and is in the gift of the President and Fellows of Magdalen College, Oxford. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a very mean building.

Woodhall. WOODHALL is a small village, obscurely situated about three miles westward from Horncastle. The benefice is a discharged vicarage, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the manorial court of Kirkstead, rated in the Liber Regis at £13. Patron the bishop of Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small modernized building.

In 1821, this parish contained 35 houses, and 191 inhabitants.

Langton. The village of LANGTON is situated about one mile west from Horncastle, and in 1821 contained 20 houses, and 100 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory valued in the king's books at £7. 19s. 4½d. Patron, the bishop of Lincoln.

The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small mean building. The manor is the property of the crown.

Thornton. THORNTON, distant about one mile south-westward from Horncastle, forms part of the possessions of the Champion Dymoke. The living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £5. 12s. 1d., and is in the patronage of the dean and chapter of Litchfield.

The church, dedicated to St. Wilfrid, is a small modern erection. The parish in 1821, contained 27 houses, and 153 inhabitants.

Tho' you know to be conquer'd he ne'er felt the disgrace.
Three such persons as these on one horse to ride,
A hero, usurper, and king, all astride:
Such honors were mine; tho' now forc'd to retire,
Perhaps my next change may be still something higher;
From a fruitwoman's market, I may leap to a spire.
As the market is mov'd I'm oblig'd to retreat,
I could stay there no longer when I'd nothing to eat:
Now the herbs and the greens are all carry'd away,
I must trot unto those who will [illegible].

MARTIN is situated about two miles south-westward from Horncastle, and in 1821, contained 10 houses, and 55 inhabitants.

The living is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £6. 4s. 2d. Patrons, J. Oldham, and B. Slater, Esquires. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is destitute of interest.

On an extensive moor in this parish, about four miles north of Tattershall, and about six miles south-west of Horncastle, stands the remain of a brick building, called from its situation the Tower on the Moor. It was built by the lord Treasurer Cromwell, and is supposed to have been an appendage to the Castle at Tattershall, from which place it is plainly visible, by reason of the flatness of the intervening country.* Of this tower only an octangular turret remains, to which fragments of the wall adhere; it is about sixty feet in height, and contains winding stairs of brick, in a very ruinous condition. Traces of the fosse, by which it was surrounded, are still visible.

About two miles south of Horncastle, on the road leading from that place to Boston, stands the village of SCRIVELSBY. Scrivelsby.

At the time of compiling the Domesday survey, it appears that part of this parish, then called Scrivelesbi, was annexed to the Soke of Horncastle, which was then retained by the conqueror.

By the same record, the manor appears to have been then holden by Robert de Spenser, but by what service is not said. It was shortly after in the tenure of Robert Marmyon, whose male descendants enjoyed the same until the twentieth year of Edward I., 1292, when Philip the the last lord Marmyon died seized of this manor, holden by barony, and the service of champion to the kings of England on their coronation day; and seized also of the castle of Tamworth in Warwickshire, held therewith as parcel of his barony, but by the service of knight's fees, to attend the king in his wars in Wales.† This Philip had only female issue, and between them his great estates here, in Warwickshire, Leicestershire and elsewhere, were divided. By this partition, the manor and barony of Scrivelsby were allotted to Joan, the youngest daughter, by whose grand-daughter and heir the same passed in marriage to Sir John Dymoke, who with Margaret his wife, had livery thereof in the twenty-third year of Edward the third. Manor.

At the coronation of Richard the second, Sir John Dymoke claimed in right of his wife to perform the office of champion: this right was counterclaimed by Baldwin Freville, who, as lord of Tamworth, also claimed to perform that service; but the commissioners of the court of claims deciding in favour of Sir John Dymoke, he performed that office; and from that period to the present time, nearly five hundred years, their male issue have continued in possession of the same inheritance.

In the forty-second and forty-third years of Henry the third, Philip Marmyon had grants of a market, fair, and free warren, at his manor of Scrivelsby. In the ninth year of Edward the first, he showed that he had those rights, and that of Gallows of Scrivelsby, with the other privileges incident to one of the great barons of the realm; and also right of free warren in the Soke of Horncastle.

* "One of the Cromwelle's builded a preaty turret caullid the Tour of the Moore: and thereby he made a faire greate ponde or lake, brickid about. The lake is commonly caullid the Synkker." *Leland's Itinerarium*, vi. 66.

BOOK IV. — Service of the Champion.

At the coronation of George the fourth, in 1821, in consequence of the possessors of the manor of Scrivelsby being a clerk in orders, his son was allowed to perform the service. The following is a description of the ceremony on that occasion.

Before the second course was brought in, the deputy appointed to officiate as Kings Champion, in his full suit of bright armour, mounted on a horse richly caparisoned, appeared under the porch of the triumphal arch, at the bottom of Westminster Hall. Every thing being in readiness, the procession moved in the following order:

Two Trumpets with the Champion's Arms on their banners.

The Sergeant-trumpeter, with his Mace on his shoulder.

Two Sergeants at Arms, with their Maces on their shoulders.

The Champion's two Esquires, in half armour, one on the right hand bearing the Champion's lance, the other on the left hand, with the Champion's target, and the arms of Dymoke depicted thereon.

A Herald, with a paper in his hand, containing the challenge.

The Deputy Earl Marshal, (Lord Howard of Effingham) on Horseback, in his Robes and Coronet, with the Earl Marshal's Staff in his hand, attended by a Page.	The Champion, (Henry Dymoke, Esq.) on Horseback, in a complete Suit of Bright Armour, with a Gauntlet in his hand, his Helmet on his head, adorned with a plume of Feathers.	The Lord High Constable, (the Duke of Wellington) in his Robes and Coronet, and Collar of his Order, on Horseback, with the Constable's Staff, attended by two Pages.

Four pages, richly apparelled, attendants on the Champion.

At the entrance into the Hall, the Trumpets sounded thrice, and the passage to the king's table being cleared by the Knight Marshal, the Herald with a loud voice proclaimed the Champion's Challenge, in the words following:

"If any person, of what degree soever, high or low, shall deny or gainsay our sovereign lord King George the fourth, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, defender of the faith, son and next heir to our sovereign lord King George the third, the last king, deceased, to be right heir to the imperial crown of this United Kingdom, or that he ought not to enjoy the same, here is his Champion, who saith that he lieth, and is a false traitor, being ready in person to combat with him, and in this quarrel will adventure his life against him on what day soever he shall be appointed."

Whereupon the Champion threw down his gauntlet: which, having lain a short time upon the ground, the Herald took it up, and delivered it again to the Champion.

They then advanced to the middle of the Hall, where the ceremony was again performed in the same manner.

Lastly, they advanced to the steps of the throne, where the Herald (and those who preceded him) ascended to the middle of the steps, proclaimed the challenge in the like manner; when the Champion having thrown down his gauntlet and received it again from the Herald, made a low obeisance to the King: whereupon the Cupbearer, having received from the Officer of the Jewel-House, a Gold Cup and Cover filled with Wine, presented the same to the King, and his Majesty drank to the Champion, and sent to him by the Cupbearer the said Cup, which the Champion (having put on his gauntlet) received, and having made a

Engraved for the [illegible] of Lincolnshire



Drawn by T. Allen. Engraved by W. [illegible]

SCRIVELSBY HALL,

[illegible] Dymoke [illegible] Champion of England [illegible] by the Author

[illegible] JOHN SAUNDERS Bond Street [illegible]

low obeisance to the King, and drank the Wine; after which, making another low obeisance to his Majesty; and being accompanied as before, he departed out of the Hall, taking with him the said Cup and Cover as his fee. CHAP. IV.

At the coronation of his present majesty, this service and many others of a similar nature were dispensed with.

The chief part of Scrivelsby Court, the ancient baronial [illegible] fire, about the year 1765. In the part consumed was a very large hall, [illegible] the wainscottings of which were depicted the various arms and [illegible] through all its numerous and far traced descents. The loss has been in [illegible] for, by the additions which have been recently made to those parts which [illegible] ravages of the fire.

The benefice of Scrivelsby, is a rectory, united in 1731 with that of D[illegible]. It is rated in the king's books at £12. 17s. 6d., and is in the patronage of the Champion.

The church, dedicated to St. Benedict, is a small building, consisting of a nave, with a north aisle, and a chancel. At the eastern end of the aisle are two tombs, on one of which is the figure of a knight, in chain armour, cross-legged; on the other [illegible] lady, with a lion at her feet. By the side of these is the tomb of Sir Robert Dymoke, who was champion at the coronations of Richard the third, Henry the seventh, and Henry the eighth; by the last of whom he was made a knight banneret. On the top of the tomb is a plate of brass, on which is sculptured his figure in full armour, in a recumbent posture, with his helmet under his head, and a lion at his feet. Above him is a shield, containing arms, and under him is the following inscription Church.

Here lieth the Body of Sir Robert Demoke of Screbelsby Knight & Baronet* who departed owt of this present Lyfe the xv day of Apryl in ye yere of our Lord God mdlxv whose sowle Almighti God have me'ci Amen.

On the floor of the aisle is a stone which has once contained a brass figure, with corner shields and an inscription, all which are now gone.

On the floor at the south side of the communion table, is a plate of Copper, inscribed,

Under this stone lyes Sir Charles Dymoke, knight, who was Champion at the coronation of king James II. On his left hand lyes the Lady Dymoke; next to her [illegible] Honourable Lewis Dymoke, their youngest son; next to him lies Capt. Dymoke, the [illegible] son of Sir Charles, who died in France; next to him, Mrs. Dym[illegible] of Sir Charles; at the head of Sir Charles lyes Mrs. Elizabeth Dymoke, young[illegible] of Sir Charles Dymoke.

On the floor at the north side of the communion table [illegible] inscribed,

Here lyeth the body of the honourable Charles Dymoke, [illegible] of Scrivelsby, Champion of England, who departed this life, the 17th day of January; and in the year of our Lord 1702.

This gravestone was laid at the proper cost and charge of his widow Jane Dymoke, and in the year 1726.

Against the south wall of the church, is a handsome marble monument, ornamented with a bust and shield of arms, inscribed.

Near this place lieth interred, the body of the honourable Lewis Dymoke, Esq., late Cham-

* This ought to have been Knight Banneret.

BOOK IV. pion of England, who performed that service at the coronation of king George I., and king George II. He was the youngest son of Sir Charles Dymoke; and Eleanor his wife, eldest daughter of the first Lord Kockingham. He departed this life on the fifth of February, 1760, in the 91st year of his age.

On the north side of the chancel, is a mural tablet, inscribed,

Sacred to the memory of the honourable John Dymoke, of Scrivelsby, in this County, Champion of England, who performed that service at the coronation of his majesty George III., and whose body lieth interred in a vault near this place: He departed this life, March 6th, 1784, aged 52 years.

Against the south wall is a small marble tablet inscribed to Lewis Jones, esquire, of Great Hale in this county, who died in 1786.

By the returns of 1821, this parish at that period contained 24 houses, and 153 inhabitants.

Dalderby. DALDERBY is a very small village, situated about two miles southward from Horncastle, on the road between that place and Tattershall.

Its church is demolished, and the rectory, in 1741, was united with that of the adjoining parish of Scrivelsby. The benefice is valued in the king's books at £4. 19s. 4½d. Patron, H. Dymoke, Esq. In 1821, it contained 6 houses, and 40 inhabitants.

Edlington. The village of EDLINGTON is pleasantly situated about two miles northward from Horncastle, near to the turnpike road leading from that place to Lincoln. In 1821 this parish contained 37 houses, and 263 inhabitants.

This place contains the seat of Richard Samuel Short, Esq., which though not of regular architecture, acquires an agreeable effect from the grove in which it is situated. From the house the prospect to the south-west over the adjacent level country, is both extensive and pleasing. The living, a vicarage, valued in the king's books at £8. 4s. 7d., is in the patronage of the king.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is a small building possessing no claim to attention.

On underdraining a field in this parish, in the latter part of the year 1819, several heaps of ox bones were dug up, and with each heap an urn of baked clay, apparently of Roman manufacture; but unfortunately none of the urns were taken up whole. To account for these relics being found here, it is probable that on this spot a Roman sacrifice had been celebrated, in honour of some deity, on the occasion of a victory, or in the exercise of other pagan rites.

Annexed to this parish is the hamlet or manor of Poolham, anciently called Polum. It formed part of the barony of Gilbert de Gaunt until about the thirty-fifth year of Edward the first, when Robert de Barkeworthe died seized of it; and it appears to have been the residence of Walterus de Barkeworthe, who died in 1347, and was buried in the cloister of Lincoln cathedral. Afterwards it was the residence of the family of Thimbleby, a branch of the Thimblebys of Irnham, who probably built the mansion house within the ancient moat, about the time of Henry the eighth. The Savilles of Howley in the County of York, enjoyed the estate in the reign of Elizabeth, and in 1600, sir John Saville, knight, sold it to George Bolles, esq., citizen of London, whose descendant Sir John Bolles, baronet, conveyed the same to Sir Edmund Turnor, of Stoke Rochford, knight, and it is now the inheritance of his descendant. Within the moat, beside the mansion house, are the remains of a chapel, built of stone, a font, and a grave-stone with the date 1527.

HEMINGBY is situated on the banks of the river Bane, at the distance of about two miles northward from Horncastle. The benefice, a rectory, valued in the king's books at £17. 8s. 6½d., is in the patronage of the Provost and fellows of King's College, Cambridge. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 52, and of inhabitants 297. The entire parish is in the liberty of the duchy of Lancaster. Hemingby.

The church is a small modernized building. On the north side of the church-yard is a hospital and school, on the front of which is a stone containing the following inscription:

"This Hospital and School were erected in the year 1727, by Jane Dymoke, widow of the Honourable Charles Dymoke of Scrivelsby, Esq., Champion of England, and endowed by her with a yearly salary to a Schoolmaster and Mistress, for teaching all the poor children in the parish of Hemingby to read, write, and work, and with a competent provision for cloathing six of the said children, and putting some of them apprentices, and also with a yearly allowance to four poor widows, inhabitants of the County of Lincoln, as is appointed in her will."

Here is a place of Worship for Wesleyan Methodists.

BAUMBER or BAMBURGH is situated on the turnpike road between Horncastle and Wragby, at the distance of four miles from the former place. The manor, together with the adjoining hamlet of Stourton Parva, once belonged to Thomas Dighton, Esq., whose daughter and heiress was married to Edward Clinton, second son of the first earl of Lincoln. On failure of male issue in the elder branch, the earldom devolved to the son of this Edward, whose successors afterwards had the dukedom of Newcastle conferred on them. These estates continued in the possession of this family until the latter part of the last century, when they were sold to Thomas Livesey, Esq., of Blackburn, in the county of Lancaster, whose son, Joseph Livesey, Esq., the present proprietor, resides thereon, in an elegant mansion, which was completed in 1810. Some remains of the residence of the Earls of Lincoln is still standing. The benefice is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the duke of Newcastle. Baumber.

The church, dedicated to St. Swithin, is a neat brick structure, which was rebuilt about the year 1760. Under the chancel is the vault of the Newcastle family, which was their place of sepulture previous to disposing of their estates in the parish. Over the vault are inscriptions in memory of Francis, grandson of Henry Clinton, earl of Lincoln, who died in 1681, and of Priscilla his wife, who died in 1679. In the floor of the north aisle is a stone, with an inscription in black letter around its verge to John Ealand, who died in 1463, and Alice and Elizabeth his wives.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to 319, and the number of houses to 51.

STURTON is distant about five miles north-westward from Horncastle, at a short distance from the road between that place and Barton. The Benefice is a discharged vicarage rated in the kings books at £8. Patron the King. Its church dedicated to All Saints is a very mean building. In 1821, the parish contained 21 houses, and 145 inhabitants. Sturton.

RANBY is a small village obscurely situated about six miles northward from Horncastle, which in 1821, contained 21 houses, and 121 inhabitants. The benefice is a vicarage valued in the Liber Regis at £4. 13s. 4d. Patron Miss A. Otter. The church dedicated to St. Germain is a small modern structure near to which is a very large ancient tumulus. Ranby.

MARKET STAINTON, though now an inconsiderable village, was formerly, as its name denotes, a market town. It is situated near to the road between Horncastle and Barton, at Market Stainton.

BOOK IV. the distance of about seven miles northward from the former place. The market has long since been entirely lost, and a fair annually held here, on the twenty-ninth of October, was in 1768, removed to Horncastle, the sum of £200. having been paid in compensation to the lord of the manor.

The living is a perpetual curacy in the patronage of J. Dickenson Esq. The church dedicated to St. Michael possesses no claims to attention. According to the returns in 1821, the parish at that period containing 35 houses, and 182 inhabitants.

Donington. DONINGTON, generally denominated Donington on the Bane, from its situation on that river, is distant about ten miles northward from Horncastle, and about eight miles eastward from Wragby. In 1821 it contained 47 houses and 269 inhabitants.

The benefice is a discharged rectory valued in the Liber Regis at £15. 12s. 2d. Patron Lord Monson.

The church dedicated to St. Andrew is a mean contracted building, which was rebuilt in the year 1779. The font is of Saxon workmanship.

In a field called Ringlands, about a mile and a half north-eastward from the village, fragments of cinerary urns, with pieces of human and other bones, partially burnt, are frequently turned up in ploughing.

Stenigot. STENIGOT is a very small village, obscurely situated at the distance of about eight miles northward from Horncastle, and about the same distance south-westward from Louth. The benefice is a discharged rectory rated in the kings books at £7. 12s. 3½d. Patron, Mrs. Arlington.

The church dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a small mean contracted building, in the chancel of which is a tablet in memory of Francis Velles de Guevara, a native of Biscay, in Spain, who died in 1592. Opposite to this is another tablet, inscribed to Sir John Guevara, knight, son of the above, who died in 1607.

Near to the church is a moated area, whereon stood the mansion of the Guevaras, the first of whom is traditionally said to have been an ambassador from Spain to this country, and marrying an English lady, seated himself in this parish. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 14, and of inhabitants 107.

Golceby. GOLCEBY is situated on the river Bane, at the distance of about seven miles northward from Horncastle.

In this parish is a free school, founded by a Mr. Acham, and endowed by him with a salary of ten pounds a year for a master. The benefice is a discharged vicarage valued in in the Kings books at £6. 0s. 2d. Patron M. B. Lister Esq. The Church is a small modern building. The parish in 1821, contained 53 houses, and 214 inhabitants.

Asterby. ASTERBY is a small village, about seven miles north-eastward from Horncastle, which in 1821, contained 25 houses, and 189 inhabitants. The benefice is a discharged rectory valued in the Liber Regis at £8. 0s. 10d. Lady Southwell is patroness. The church dedicated to St. Peter is a small structure, containing nothing of interest.

Here is a small endowment for the instruction of poor children the bequest of Antony Ascham.

Cawkwell. CAWKWELL is a very small village, situated on the turnpike road between Horncastle and Louth, at the distance of six miles south-westward from the former place, and seven miles

north-eastward from the latter. The benefice a discharged vicarage, rated in the Liber Regis, [illegible]
at £4. 8. 6½. is in the patronage of the crown. The church is a very small mean building.

In 1821 contained 7 houses, and 34 inhabitants.

Mr. Hanserd Knollys, a very learned and pious man, was born at this village in the year 1598. After receiving his education at the university of Cambridge, where he was distinguished for his zeal in religion, he was chosen master of the free school at Gainsborough, in which situation he continued but a short time. Having been ordained first a deacon and then a presbyter of the church of England, he was, about the year 1630, presented with the living of Humberstone in this county; but after he had held it two or three years, he began to scruple the lawfulness of several of the ceremonies of the church, and resigned his living to the bishop of Lincoln, who had bestowed it upon him. After this he preached in several parishes, without reading the service, which was connived at by his diocese; but about the year 1636 he left the church entirely, and joined himself to the baptists, of a congregation of which denomination, in London, he became the pastor in 1645. Of this congregation he continued to be the pastor until his death, although he was often, from the persecuting spirit of the times, compelled to change his place of residence. Once he was driven from London to America; at another time he was obliged to remove into Wales; twice he retired into Lincolnshire, and once into Holland and Germany. He died in September 1691, in the ninety-third year of his age.*

The village of Scamblesby is situated on the turnpike road between Louth and Horncastle, at the distance of six miles northward from the latter place. The church, which is a small mean building, contains a tablet, whereon is an inscription in latin to the memory of Margaret the wife of Francis Thorndike, but the time of her decease is not recorded. The Reverend Herbert Thorndike, prebendary of Westminster, by his will bearing date July 3, 1672, gave all his estates in this parish, in trust, after the payment of one thousand pounds, for the founding of a perpetual vicarage in this church, the patronage of which was to be vested in the dean and chapter of Lincoln. Previous to this bequest the church possessed scarcely any subsistence for its minister. Scamblesby

In 1821, the parish contained 35 houses, and 347 inhabitants.

Belchford is distant about five miles north-eastward from Horncastle. Belchford.

The benefice is a rectory valued in the Liber Regis, at £18. 6s. 8d. Patron the King. The church is a neat structure. The parish in 1821, contained 99 houses, and 490 inhabitants.

The Soke of Horncastle is situated on the south-east of the Wapentake of Gartree. Soke of Horncastle.

Horncastle is pleasantly situated at the foot of a bold and even range of hills, which, from their openness, have been termed the wolds. It is nearly in the centre of the Lindsey division of the county of Lincoln, and is distant twenty-one miles eastward from Lincoln. Horncastle.

The principal part of the town is built within an angle formed by the confluence of the rivers Bane and Waring, where an ancient fortification formerly stood, the site of which is still visible, denoting it in early times to have been a station of importance.

The character of the place however is now completely changed. From a military station it has become a situation of trade; and owing to its being surrounded by a consider-

* Weir's Lincolnshire, p 301.

BOOK IV. able number of villages, possesses one of the largest markets in the county.

Roman station. Several antiquaries have agreed in fixing here the *Banovallum* of the Roman geographer Ravennas. This opinion has been the more readily adopted from the etymology of the name; the latter part of the word being latin, and the whole collectively signifying a fortification on the river Bane. There is no doubt that the Romans were induced at first to make a station at this place, from its advantageous situation, easily rendered defensible by a *vallum*, or temporary barrier, drawn across the aperture of the two rivers from one bank to the other, and thence came its designation. Afterwards they built the indissoluble stone wall, whose vestiges, after the lapse of ages, are manifest nearly the whole compass round. It is to be regretted that the Roman geographer has laid down no distances; he merely places *Banovallum* next to *Lindum*, so that nothing decidedly certain can be gained from his work.

But, though it cannot be positively ascertained that this spot was the Roman *Banovallum*; yet, as the name most evidently points out a fortification on the Bane, there appears little reason to question it; both from its contiguity to the colony of *Lindum*, with which place it had communication by means of a military road, as also from its situation; particularly as no other remains of the Romans have been discovered on that river, nor yet any near to it, except some coins at the village of Ludford, where the Bane has its source; and traces of an encampment at Tattershall, more than a mile distant from its banks.

The Roman road from Lincoln to Horncastle did not vary materially from the present road, between those places. Another Roman way branched from this road to the distance of about four miles from Horncastle, leading nearly in a straight line to Caistor, and from thence to the Humber: it bears the name of the High Street, and several tumuli are to be seen on on its sides.*

The vestiges of the Roman fortress are well worthy of attention; and although they are too small to give an adequate idea of the original structure, are yet sufficient to show the form and extent of the space enclosed, which appears to have been nearly a parallelogram of about six hundred feet in length, and in breadth three hundred and fifty on the east, and three hundred on the west.† The wall by which this area was surrounded was fifteen or sixteen feet in thickness, and composed of small blocks of a loosely aggregated sand stone, dug from the neighbouring hills. It was formed with casing stones on the outside, the internal parts being filled up with courses laid diagonally, which according to the customary and substantial mode of building among the Roman people, were run together by mortar disseminated through the interstices in a fluid state, forming a cement, which has acquired by time an imperishable induration. Of the casing stones none are now to be seen, except in cellars which have been formed by the side of the wall. Where the fragments are sufficiently high, those portions of the Roman masonry, which remained after the destruction of the fortress, may be perceived rising to about six or seven feet above the ground, the diagonal courses of stone then ceasing. Above this the construction is marked by masses of larger dimensions than the lower parts; a circumstance evincing that another structure of a different period has been erected on the original foundation: this was probably a reparation which

* Weir's Horncastle, p. 5.

† Dr. Stukely has incorrectly described this fortress as a complete parallelogram; Gough, too has erroneously stated it to have enclosed twenty acres.

was made in the time of the Anglo-Saxons. At the north-east corner of the enclosure the remains of a circular turret are still visible; but of the towers or gateways no traces are left. CHAP. IV.

Near the junction of the two rivers, on the south-west of the town, was formerly one of those mazes common to Roman stations, called the Julian Bower. In these the youth were exercised in a martial game, called Troy Town, which in after years, though divested of its martial character, continued to be amongst the healthy pastimes of the young, in their evening assemblies of pleasure and sport. Cultivation has long since effaced every vestige of the maze; but the piece of land on which it stood still retains the name of the *Julian Bower Close.*

Mr. Weir the historian of Horncastle, notices a peculiar rustic ceremony, which used annually to be observed at this place, which doubtless derived its origin from the Floral games of antiquity. "On the morning of May-day, when the young of the neighbourhood assembled to partake in the amusements which ushered in the festivals of the month of flowers. a train of youths collected themselves at a place to this day called the *May Bank.* From thence, with wands enwreathed with cowslips, they walked in procession to the may-pole, situated at the west end of the town, and adorned on that morning with every variety in the gifts of Flora. Here, uniting in the wild joy of young enthusiasm, they struck together their wands, and scattered around the cowslips, testified their thankfulness for that bounty, which widely diffused its riches, enabled them to return home rejoicing at the promises of the opening year. That innovation in the manners and customs of the country, which has swept away the ancient pastimes of rustic simplicity, obliterated, about the year 1780, this peculiar vestige of the Roman Floralia."

In the fields on the south side of the town, the ground abounds with fragments of cinerary urns, and several perfect ones have also there been discovered.* From these circumstances, together with the appearance of the soil, it seems certain that in this part the Romans used to burn their dead on the funeral pile.

The coins which have been found here are numerous, and though chiefly of small brass of the lower empire, yet they include many extremely fine and varied specimens of the earlier imperial coins, both of a larger size and of other metals.

In deepening the bed of the river Bane, to complete the navigation, in 1802, an ornamental brass spur, part of a brass crucifix, and a dagger, were found together at a short distance from the north bason of the navigation.

When the Romans in the decline of their empire had withdrawn from Britain, and the country had fallen under the dominion of the Saxons, that people, according to the practice which prevailed amongst them of changing the names of Roman stations, gave to this place the appellation of HYRNCASTRE or HORNECASTRE, from its situation in an angle formed by the junction of the two rivers, which denotes a fortification in a corner, of which the present name HORNCASTLE is evidently a corruption.

The Roman fortress was at that time either destroyed, or in a very dilapidated state; for Horsa, the Saxon general and brother of Hengist is stated to have much improved the fortress of Horncastle. This fortification however did not continue long; for Horsa being

* Engraved in Weir's Horncastle.

 defeated in an engagement with the Britons, under the command of Raengoires, at the neighbouring village of Tetford, Vortimer king of the Britons caused it to be beaten down and rendered defenceless.

Manor.

From Domesday book, it appears that the manor of Horncastle, previous to the close of the Saxon Government, belonged to Editha the queen of Edward the Confessor; but at the time of making that survey, it formed, together with the soke, part of the possessions of the king. In the reign of Stephen it was the demesne of Alice or Adelias de Cundi,* who resided at her castle here. As she took part against the king in his contention with the Empress Maud, he seized her lands, but restored them again on condition that she should demolish her castle, the means which had served to render her political alliance formidable to his interest. The extent and nature of the structure possessed as the mansion of Adelias is not discoverable, no traces being to be found; but its strength most probably consisted in a restoration of the walls of the Roman fortress, which encircling some convenient and less durable edifice, gave to the place of her residence the security of a castle.

On the decease of Adelias de Cundi this manor came again to the crown, and was afterwards given by Henry II. to Gerbald le Escald, a Fleming, who held it for one knight's fee, and who was succeeded by his grandson, or nephew, and heir, Gerrard de Rhodes. Gerrard was succeeded by his son and heir, Ralph de Rhodes, who, in the reign of Henry III, sold the manor to Walter Mauclerke, the third bishop of Carlisle, who also held the office of Treasurer of the Exchequer. This sale being made in the spirit of these times when the feudal system prevailed, the bishop and his successors were to hold the estate by the performance of suit and service to Ralph de Rhodes and his heirs. In the fourteenth year of the same reign, the transfer to Walter Mauclerke was confirmed by the king, who in the same year also granted to him three several charters. The first of these charters gave to the bishop free warren over the manor and the soke; the second, the liberty of holding an annual fair at this place, which was to commence two days before the eve of the feast of St Barnabas, and to continue eight days; the third had for its objects the empowering of the bishop to try felons, and to hold a court leet; also the exemption of the inhabitants of the manor and the soke from toll, and several other payments and services, besides protecting them from arrest by the officers of the king and the sheriff.† An addional charter was granted in the following year enabling the bishop to hold a weekly market here every Wednesday; also another annual fair, to commence on the eve of the feast of St. Lawrence, and to continue seven days. The custom of holding a fair on the anniversary of this festival appears to have prevailed at an earlier period, it being alluded to in the charter granting the former fair. These grants were confirmed and the privileges extended by succeeding monarchs.

Walter Mauclerke resigned the see of Carlisle in 1246, and as this manor devolved to his ecclesiastical successors, it may be inferred that it had been purchased to increase the revenues of the bishoprick, and not to be appropriated as his private property. In the reign of Richard II., when the border contests had laid waste the see of Carlisle, and divested the

* She was daughter and heiress of William de Cheney, lord of Cavenby and Glentham, in this county.—*Dugdale* ii. 336.

† On the eastern boundary of the parish is a place called Hangman's Corner, where those convicted of capital offences in the court of the manor where executed.

bishops of their seat of Rose Castle in Cumberland, they were necessitated to take up their residence at Horncastle, which continued for some time to be their principal place of abode.

Manor.

The manor continued in the possession of the bishops of Carlisle until the reign of Edward VI., when under the authority of a license from the crown, it was sold by bishop Aldrich to Edward Lord Clinton, who during the time he held it, compounded with the copyhold tenants, and enfranchised their estates; but after Mary had ascended to the throne, he was compelled to re-convey his purchase to the see of Carlisle, to which, since that time, it has continued to belong.* Bishop Aldrich died at this place in March 1555, the second year of the reign of queen Mary: from which it appears that the estate had either been restored previous to his decease; or, in the conditions of the sale he had reserved to himself the privilege of residing in the manor house.†

Queen Elizabeth had a lease of this manor from the then possessing bishop, in which she was succeeded by James I., who assigned it to Sir Edward Clinton, knight; but owing to a neglect of enrollment, it proved void. For nearly a century the lease was held by the late Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, baronet, and his ancestors.

The large tract of fen land, situated between this place and Boston, at a very early period belonged to the lords of this manor, in conjunction with the lords of the manors of Bolingbroke and Scrivelsby; but by the grants which they gave to the neighbouring abbies at Revesby and Kirkstead, their right therein became comparatively small. On the enclosure of these fens, pursuant to act of parliament, in 1801, about six hundred acres were annexed to the parish of Horncastle, eighty-one acres of which were allotted to the lord of the manor, the remainder to the owners of common-right houses.

The house where the bishops used to reside, is a spacious structure, but destitute of architectural merit, was situated at the north-west corner of the ancient fortress. It was demolished about the year 1770, when the present manor house was erected on its site.

Church.

From the silence of the Domesday record respecting a church at this place, it may be concluded that there was not one erected when that survey was made; there however appears to have been one in the reign of Richard the first.

The present structure, which is dedicated to Saint Mary, stands in the centre of the town, and possesses but few attractions for the antiquary or the architect. It consists of a nave and chancel, with north and south aisles, and a low square tower at the west end. Being

* Parliamentary Survey, made in the years 1647 and 1648.

† Robert Aldrich was born at Burnham in Buckinghamshire, educated at Eton, and elected a scholar of King's college, Cambridge, in 1507, where he took the degree of M. A. afterwards became procter of the university, schoolmaster of Eton, fellow of the college, and at length provost. In 1523 he was one of those who were sent out by the university of Cambridge to preach in different parts of the nation, as the judges now go their circuits. In 1529 he retired to Oxford, where he was incorporated B. D. About the same time he was made archdeacon of Colchester. In 1531 he was installed canon of Windsor, and the same year he was appointed register of the most noble order of the garter. July 18, 1537, he was consecrated bishop of Carlisle. He was a correspondent of Erasmus, who termed him when young, "blandæ eloquentiæ juvenis," and appears to have associated with him during his residence at Cambridge. Leland was his familiar acquaintance, and gives him a high character for parts and learning. He was the author of a volume of epigrams, and several theological treatises. *Weir's Lincoln.*

BOOK IV. for the most part built with the soft and imperfectly aggregated sand-stone of the neighbourhood, which yields easily to the moisture of the atmosphere, it has suffered much from the effects of time; and the decayed parts being repaired with brick, gives to the building a motley and unprepossessing appearance.

The few portions of the original architecture which have escaped the silent ravages of years and the hands of the innovator, bespeak the building of no higher antiquity than the period of Henry the seventh. The aisle on the north side of the chancel is ornamented with embattlements, on which quatrefoils and blank shields are sculptured. This aisle does not extend the whole length of the chancel, and in the space so left, the remains of an oratory and confessional are still visible; this space formerly appropriated as a depositary for coals to distribute among the poor, is now occupied by a building to contain the fire engines; a corresponding part of the south aisle being used as a vestry. The aisle on the south side of the chancel was rebuilt in 1820; but the original windows were restored and again inserted. Part of the aisle on the south of the nave was rebuilt in the following year.

The interior of the church is remarkably neat and well pewed. A gallery at the west end of the nave contains an organ which was purchased by subscription in 1810. Galleries are also erected in each aisle of the nave.

Monuments. In the wall of the north aisle is a stone, containing the figure in brass of Sir Lionel Dymoke, in plate armour, kneeling on a cushion, and holding in his hand a label inscribed, *Sc'ta trinitas unus deus miserere nol.* On each side of him are two shields containing arms, at one of the lower corners are the figures of his two sons, and at the other those of his three daughters, and under him the following inscription:

In honore sc'te et individue trinitatis Orate p' aiā Leonis Dymoke milit' q' obij xvij die me'se Augusti Anno D'ni mo ccccxix cuj'a'ie p'piciet' de' Amen.

On the floor beneath the monument is a brass, on which is this Latin verse nearly obliterated.

Leonis fossa nunc hæc Dymoke capitossa
Miles erat Regis cui parce Deus prece matrix
Es testis Christe quod non jacet hix lapis iste
Corpus ut ornetux sed spiritus ut memoretur
Hinc tu qui transis senex medius puer an sis
Pro me funde preces quia sic mihi fit venie spes.

On the wall over the door of the vestry is an inscription to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Gibson, A. M., who was vicar of this parish in the reign of Charles I., and during the contest between that monarch and his parliament, suffered much from his adherence to the royal cause. He died April 22d, 1678.

Against the wall on the south side of the chancel in 1827, was a lozenge shaped piece of canvass, on which was the following inscription:

"Here lieth the worthy and memorable Kt. Sir INGRAM HOPTON, who paid his debt to nature and duty to

his King and Country in the attempt of seizing the arch-rebel in the bloody skirmish near Winceby, October the 6th, A. D. 1643 *"

Beside the sepulchral memorials already detailed, are a number of others on the floor, and a few of a recent date, on marble tablets, against the walls.

Against the wall over the north entrance are several scythes and hay knives, some of which are yet remaining in the shafts to which they have been affixed, in order to render them instruments of warfare. The occasion for which they were so prepared is unknown, the traditionary accounts of them being both vague and contradictory.

The benefice is a vicarage in the archdeaconry of Lincoln, rated in the kings books at £14. 4s. 2d. and in the patronage of the Bishop of Carlisle.

In this town is a society of Wesleyan Methodists; a small congregation of Calvinistic Baptists; a society of Primitive Methodists, or Ranters; and a congregaton of Independants.

Grammar School.

The Grammar School is situated at the south side of the church yard, and is a spacious and and well-constructed edifice of brick. It was founded and endowed by Edward Lord Clinton and Saye, Lord High Admiral of England, under the authority of letters patent, dated the 25th of June, 1652. By these letters it was ordained, that this institution should be denominated "The Free Grammer School of Queen Elizabeth, in the Town or Soke of Horncastle, of the foundation of Edward Lord Clinton and Saye," for the education, training, and instruction of boys and youths in grammar, and to be appropriated to this object for ever.

The school was to be conducted by a master, and a sub-master or usher, ten governors were also appointed and incorporated, with perpetual succession, and a common seal. These governors were empowered on the death of any of their body, to elect others in their places; also to nominate the master and usher on any vacancy; and to make such statutes concerning the preservation and disposal of the revenues, as circumstances at any time might dictate. Besides holding the endowments, they were authorized to purchase and receive lands and other possessions, not exceeding £40. per annum.

The estates by which the establishment is maintained, consist of houses and land situated at Horncastle, Hemingby, Sutton, Huttoft, and Winthorpe. The lands in the last three named parishes being subject to inundations from the sea, the annual revenue is rendered precarious; but in the more favorable years it amounts to about £200.

The salaries for a long time were £40. per annum to the master, and £30. to the sub-master or usher: but on the appointment of the present master, in 1818, the salary was advanced to £80. per annum, to which was also added a house for his residence; the salary of the sub-master remaining as heretofore, at £30. The sum of £2. 2s. per annum is charged for those scholars who are instructed in writing and arithmetic.

The governors of this school have also the management of another school in the town, for

* It is observable that Cromwell is here stiled the arch-rebel, although at the time mentioned he was only a colonel, and by no means an illustrious individual in the war. The date given to the battle is wrong, it having been fought on the 11th of October; and the signal defeat of the royalists is diminished in its importance, by stiling the conflict a skirmish. *Weir.*

BOOK IV. the instruction of poor children in reading, sewing, and knitting. A house, with a salary to the teacher of £17. per annum, charged upon certain estates in Horncastle, having been bequeathed to them in trust for that purpose, by Mr. Richard Watson, a native of this place, who died in 1784.

The seal of the grammar school, represents a castle on a horn, evidently a rebus on the name, around it is inscribed, COMVNE. SIGILLVM. LIBE. SCHOLE. DE.

Navigation of the Bane. The river Bane, rising at the village of Ludford, takes its course in a direction nearly south to join its waters with those of the Witham. After meandering through an extent of country about fourteen miles, it receives at Horncastle the tributary stream of the Waring, and abundantly supplies the town, conveniently situated at the confluence of the two rivers. From hence continuing a gently winding course, it washes Tattershall and its moorlands, before it falls into the larger river to increase its waters to the sea.

In the year 1792, an act of parliament was obtained for making the Bane navigable from the river Witham, through Tattershall, to Horncastle. The act, after reciting the names of the original subscribers, incorporates them by the name of "The Company of Proprietors of the Horncastle Navigation in the county of Lincoln," giving them perpetual succession and a common seal, and empowering them to raise £15,000. in three hundred shares of £50. each. The interest of these was not to exceed £8. per cent. No person was to be the possesor of less than one share, nor to hold more than twenty. As circumstances might require, they were authorized to raise £1,000. more, by shares or mortgages of the tolls.

The tollage allowed by this act was, for goods passing the whole length of the navigation, 2s. per ton; from the Witham to the seventh lock, 1s. 9d. per ton; and from the Witham to the fourth lock, 1s. 3d. per ton; excepting lime, lime-stone, manure, or materials for roads, for which, only half the already mentioned tolls were to be taken.

The works were commenced in the year 1793; but, when about two thirds were completed, the whole of the funds to be appropriated to their execution, were already expended. After suffering the canal to remain several years in an unfinished state, the company applied again to parliament, and in the year 1800 another act was obtained, enabling them to raise £20,000. more by subscription amongst themselves, by admission of new subscribers in shares of £50. each, by mortgage, or by granting annuities. The limitation of shares and interest were repealed by this act; and the tonnage rates advanced to 3s. 3d. per ton for the whole length of the navigation, 2s. 7d. to the seventh lock, and 1s. 8d. to the fourth; lime, lime-stone, manure, and materials for roads excepted as before from the payment of full rates.

Shortly after the works were recommenced, the plan of completing them by an entirely new canal was adopted in preference to that which they had before pursued of rendering the Bane navigable. It was therefore at the village of Dalderby diverted from the course of the natural stream, and carried on in a less varied track to the point of junction between the waters of the Bane and Waring: from hence it was continued in the divergent courses of these two rivers, to the more extreme parts of the town of Horncastle. It was completed in September 1802. The canal is sufficiently deep to navigate vessels of fifty tons burthen.

From this town to the river Witham the distance is about eleven miles, in which the stream has a fall of eighty-four feet.

Market. Although this place was favoured at an early period with a charter for a market, which in

the time of Henry VIII., appears to have been well frequented, yet it remained for many years little more than a considerable village. From the earliest accounts it seems to have been gradually increasing; but it was not until later years, when a new impulse was given to the agricultural interests of the country, that it began to exhibit material evidences of extention and improvement.

From a plan of the town drawn by Dr. Stukely, in the year 1722, it appears at that period of time, to have been little more than half its present extent. It is traditionally asserted that at that period scarcely a brick house was to be found in the parish; the early erected dwellings being all constructed with clay walls and covered with thatch; thus evidencing that common character which Leland the antiquary assigns to the towns of this part. The clay buildings have for the most part disappeared, and brick structures are erected in their stead. The rebuilding of many houses in the principal streets in a handsome manner, has given to the town an air of respectability; but the effect which would be produced by these buildings in its general appearance, is materially diminished by the narrowness and irregularity of the streets.*

The entrances to the town, as well as its general aspect, have also been improved by the inclosure of the fields by which it is surrounded. To accomplish this an act of parliament was obtained in 1803, and carried into effect the following year.

Trade.

In no respect has the town changed more than in its trade; a large proportion of its inhabitants having formerly been employed in the tanning of leather, in which manufacture the yards on the south side of the Far-street were almost exclusively occupied. About the year 1750, the number of these establishments began rapidly to decline, and are at this time reduced to two. Since the completion of the canal in 1801, a considerable trade in corn and wool has been carried on here; about thirty thousand quarters of the former, and three thousand sheets of the latter being annually sent from this place. The town also from its situation in a well inhabited district enjoys a large retail trade.

There are three fairs for horses, cattle and sheep, held here annually. The first, which concludes on the twenty-second of June, has declined very much, and though chartered for eight days seldom continues more than three. The second, which terminates on the twenty-first of August, has long been celebrated as the largest fair for horses in the kingdom, perhaps it may be said in the world; it continues about ten days, being three days, more than the time expressed in the charter. To this fair are brought for sale horses of all descriptions from every part of the kingdom, to the number of many thousands; and besides the most extensive dealers of this country, there are to be found in the fair purchasers and dealers from different parts of the continent of Europe, and even from America. The third fair, which is held on the twenty-eight and twenty-ninth days of October, was removed to this place in 1768, from Market-Stainton, a decayed market town about seven miles distant, two hundred pounds being given to the lord of the manor of that place, to permit the removal, one half of this sum was raised by subscription amongst the inhabitants of this town, the other by William Banks, esquire, the then lessee of the manor. The market is held every Saturday, to which it was changed from Wednesday

* Weir's Lincolnshire

BOOK IV. the day mentioned in the charter, probably in consequence of the markets at Boston and Louth being also on that day; but the time at which the alteration took place cannot be ascertained.

Dispensary. On the south side of the church yard is a building appropriated for the purposes of a Dispensary, which was supported by public subscription. Those to whom medical aid is administered are such of the sick poor, in the town and neighbourhood of Horncastle, as are recommended by subscribers; and the many to whom assistance has been afforded, evince its utility in a striking degree.

In the year 1790 a Literary Society was established in this town, which possess an extensive library. The property of this society is permanent and unalienable; excepting that books considered unworthy of being preserved are disposed of at the next anniversary but one after their purchase.

In the year 1807, the inhabitants of this town, in conjunction with several other towns and villages in the county of Lincoln, made application to parliament, and obtained an act for the recovery of debts not exceeding the sum of five pounds. The commissioners hold their courts at this place every fourth Thursday.

The education of the poor, which has excited so much attention in various parts of the kingdom, has not been neglected here. Schools on the Lancasterian and Madras systems were established in October, 1813, both of which are supported by voluntary contributions.

In the year 1688, Horncastle contained 165 families: in 1801 the number of houses in this town was 424, and of inhabitants 2015; in 1811, the number of houses had increased to 563, and of inhabitants to 2922; and in 1821, the number of houses had further increased to 672, and of inhabitants to 3058.

Thimbleby. THIMBLEBY is about a mile north-west from Horncastle, the parishes adjoining each other. In Domesday book this place is written Stimelbi. The manor which in the reign of Charles the second was the property of Sir Robert Bolles of Scampton, is possessed by Thomas Hotchkin, Esq. of Tixover, in the county of Rutland, in the possession of whose ancestors it has been for many years. In this parish is also the manor of Hallgarth, which formerly belonged to a family named Bolton; but is now the joint property of Richard Elmhirst, Esq., of Uzzelby, and Mr Kemp, of Thimbleby.

The benefice is a discharged rectory in the archdeaconry of Lincoln, rated in the Liber Regis at £13. 10s. 10d. Patron, G. Hotchkin, Esq. The church re-built in the year 1744, is a small stone edifice, possessing a considerable share of architectural merit: a stone over the door points out the year in which it was rebuilt, but besides this it exhibits no other inscription. In 1821, it contained 75 houses, and 384 inhabitants.

West Ashby. WEST ASHBY is a parish adjoining to the north boundaries of that of Horncastle, from which town the village is about two miles distant. Previous to the dissolution of monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII, the abbey of Kirkstead had a grange in this parish, which, in the fifth year of Edward VI., was granted amongst other estates to William Cecil, the great Lord Burghley, and now forms part of the Ashby Thorpe estate.

The benefice is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the bishop of Carlisle. The church dedicated to All Saints, consists of a tower, a nave with a north aisle, and a chancel.

In 1821, this parish contained 91 houses, and 378 inhabitants.

Low Tointon.

Low TOINTON is about a mile eastward from the town of Horncastle, the parishes adjoining. In 1821, it contained 15 houses, and 95 inhabitants.

The manorial estates, which comprise nearly the whole parish, are the property of Lancelot Rolleston, Esq., of Watnell, in the county of Nottingham, by whose ancestors it has been possessed for several generations.

The benefice is a discharged rectory, rated in the kings books at £11. 1s. 8d. and in the joint patronage of Lord Gwydyr, and Lady Willoughby de Eresby. The church, which is modern erection, being rebuilt in 1811, contains a very curiously sculptured font, and an inscription on a plate of copper in the north wall to Edward Rolleston, Esquire, who died in 1687.

Here is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists.

The village of HIGH TOINTON is about a mile and a half eastward from Horncastle, to which parish, and also that of Low Tointon, it adjoins; in 1821, it contained 33 houses, and 159 inhabitants. The manorial estates, which have descended with those of Horncastle, belong to the bishop of Carlisle, and are leased to different individuals.

The benefice is a perpetual curacy endowed with £600. royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Carlisle. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a small uninteresting building.

In this village is a small Wesleyan chapel.

Mareham on the Hill.

MAREHAM ON THE HILL is about a mile and a half south-east from Horncastle, the parishes adjoining each other. The manor once belonged to Edward Marsh, Esq., of Hundle House, in the county of Lincoln, by a descendant of whom it was sold to William Hudson, Esq., of Gray's Inn. In 1659, it was sold to a person named Duncombe, of whom it was purchased in 1688, by Sir Edmund Turnor, of Stoke Rochford, knight, in whose family it still continues.

The benefice is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £1200. royal bounty. Patron the bishop of Carlisle. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is completely destitute of interest. On repairing it, about fifteen years ago, two nobles of Edward IV., two angels of Henry VII, and several silver coins of different reigns, contained in a leathern purse, were discovered concealed in the wall. According to the returns in 1821, this village at that period contained 23 houses, and 183 inhabitants.

Roughton.

ROUGHTON about four miles southward from Horncastle, in 1821, contained 23 houses, and 110 inhabitants. The benefice is a discharged rectory, united in 1741 to Haltham upon Bain. It is rated in the kings books at £6. 15s. 2d. The church, dedicated to St. Magaret, which is a small building, consisting of a tower, nave, and chancel, contains a marble tablet, on which is an inscription to Norreys Fynes, Esq., grandson to Sir Henry Clinton, commonly called Fynes eldest son of Henry, earl of Lincoln, who died in 1736. There also occur two other tablets; one to the memory of the Rev. Arthur Rockcliffe, who died in 1798; the other to the memory of Charles Pilkington, Esq., who died in 1798, and of Abigail, his wife, who died in 1817.

Haltham.

HALTHAM is distant about five miles southward from Horncastle, in 1821 contained 37 houses, and 196 inhabitants. The manorial estates, which comprise nearly the whole of the

BOOK IV. parish, once belonged to the Marmyons of Scrivelsby, and are now possessed by the Dymokes, descendants of a female branch of that family.

The benefice is a discharged rectory rated at £8. 11s. 3d. Patron, the Hon. G. Dymoke. The church dedicated to St. Benedict, appears to have suffered much from time, has in its pristine state possessed a considerable share of architectural merit. A large window at the eastern end contains very fine tracery, and at one time, together with some of the other windows, exhibited a large portion of stained glass, of which only one piece, containing the arms of the ancient family of La Warre, is now remaining.

Wood Enderby. WOOD ENDERBY is situated about five miles south from Horncastle, and in 1821, contained 31 houses, and 178 inhabitants.

The benefice is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £1000. royal bounty. Patron the bishop of Carlisle. The church dedicated to St Benedict, is an uninteresting building.

Moorby. MOORBY is distant about five miles southward from Horncastle.

The benefice is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £7. 11s. 8d. Patron the bishop of Carlisle. The church dedicated to All Saints, is totally destitute of interest. Here is a chapel for Wesleyan Methodists.

The parish in 1821, contained 21 houses and 180 inhabitants.

Wilksby. WILKSBY is situated about six miles southward from Horncastle, and in 1821 contained 9 houses, and 58 inhabitants.

The benefice is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £4. 4s. 2d. Patron H. Dymoke, Esq. The church dedicated to All Saints, is a small modern erection.

Mareham le Fen. MAREHAM LE FEN is about seven miles distant from Horncastle, and situated on the verge of the recently enclosed fenny district, from whence it has received its appellation.

The benefice is a vicarage, valued in the Liber Regis at £13. 10s. 10d. Patron the bishop of Carlisle. The church dedicated to St. Helen, consists of a tower, a nave with north and south aisles, and a chancel. In the chancel is a tablet to the memory of the Rev. Henry Shepherd, who was rector of this parish thirty-four years, and died in January, 1764. Here is a small Wesleyan Methodist chapel.

In 1821 the number of houses in this parish was 126, and the inhabitants 609.

Coningsby. CONINGSBY is a very considerable village on the banks of the river Bane, about eight miles from Horncastle; and, in 1821 contained 349 houses, and 1651 inhabitants.

The manor, which was once possessed by the Marmyons of Wintringham, was afterwards the property of the earl of Coningsby, who resided in a castellated mansion at this place.* The estates afterwards came into the possession of the Heathcote family.

The benefice is a rectory in the archdeaconry of Lincoln, rated in the kings books at £39. 10s. 2½d. Patron, Sir G. Heathcote, Bart. The church, dedicated to All Saints, consists of a tower of excellent masonry, a nave, two aisles, and a chancel. The rectory was once held by the Rev. Laurence Eusden, poet laureate, who died here in 1730. It was subsequently held by the Rev. John Dyer, the poet, who at this place finished his didactic poem of "The Fleece." He died here in 1758 and was interred in the church; but there is no inscription to perpetuate his memory.

* A view of this castle is contained in the collection of paintings at Hampton Court, Herefordshire.

A congregation of general Baptists was formed at this place during the government of Cromwell: the society still exists, with an endowment for the minister.

Here are also places of public worship for the Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists.

Langrickville

LANGRICKVILLE is situated about fourteen miles southward from Horncastle, near to a ferry over the river Witham called Langrick Ferry, from which the parish has taken its name. In 1821 it contained 36 houses, and 195 inhabitants. This parish consists of the portion of Wildmore Fen allotted to the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, in lieu of his manorial rights over Armtree and Wildmore, together with some lands sold by the commissioners appointed under the act for draining and enclosing that fen. In 1812, these lands were by an act of parliament rendered parochial, and in 1818 a small brick chapel was consecrated. It is of pointed architecture with two pinnacles and a bell.

Thornton le Fen.

THORNTON LE FEN is situated about thirteen miles southward from Horncastle, and about five miles northward from Boston, near to the road between these towns. It consists principally of lands sold by the commissioners appointed under the act of parliament for draining and enclosing Wildmore Fen, and which were rendered parochial in 1812. It possesses a small newly-erected church, and in 1821 contained 23 houses, and 141 inhabitants.

Soke of Bolingbroke.

THE SOKE of BOLINGBROKE is situated on the west side of Candleshoe wapentake and contains a considerable portion of Fen land.

Bolingbroke.

BOLINGBROKE, though once a place of considerable importance, is now, comparatively, a small decayed market town. It is at the distance of about twenty miles south eastward from the city of Lincoln, and gives name to the soke in which it is situated. Its name is derived from the circumstance of being situated on the banks of a rapid brook which passes along through a singularly deep cavity of rude sand-stone rocks, suddenly terminating at the northern verge of the neighbouring fen district.

At a former period Bolingbroke was considered one of the chief market towns in the county, but it gradually yielded to the superior conveniences offered by other places, and the trade being thus withdrawn the town naturally decayed, and its market became ultimately neglected, and entirely disused. Yet even in the present wreck, we may perceive manifest evidences of its former flourishing condition, in the ruins of its stately castle, the convenience and superiority of its houses, and its market place, once the resort of industry and wealth, though now, for the reasons before stated, grass grown and desolate.

In 1821 the parish, contained 158 houses and 753 inhabitants.

Church.

The church is situated at a short distance north of the castle, and at present consists only of a tower and nave, which was formerly the southern aisle of the original edifice; the remainder of the edifice having been destroyed in the civil wars that occurred during the reign of Charles I., when the army of the parliament occupied it, and this drew upon the devoted structure an impetuous cannonading from the royalists, who were then besieged in the castle. It is built of sand stone, but, with the exception of its extremely light and beautiful windows, contains no architectural features worthy of comment. These windows were formerly ornamented with richly stained glass, of which, however, it is to be regretted, not a vestige is now left. Here are still preserved, as a memorial of by-gone grandeur, the mutilated remains of an embroidered covering for the communion table, which tradition relates was worked by one of the Duchesses of Lancaster.

There were at one period two chantries attached to this church, but these were suppressed in the twenty second year of the reign of Henry VIII.

The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £9. 19s. 2d. The church is dedicated to St. Peter and Paul.

There is a free school at this place founded and endowed in 1588, by a Mr. Chamberlain.

Manor. The manor appears to have been, from an early period, connected with the dignity of the Earldom of Lincoln. Ranulph, an illustrious nobleman, marrying Lucia, widow of Roger de Romara, sister, and heiress of Morcar, the Saxon earl of Northumberland and Lincoln, delivered the estates, amongst which was this lordship, to Henry the first, for the dignity of the Earldom of Chester. Against this, William de Romara, son of Lucia by her former husband, appealed to the king, but in vain, William however strengthened by his interest the rebellion in Normandy which had been raised by Robert, the eldest son of the conqueror and brother of the king; Henry to appease his wrath, and obtain his favour was, in the twenty-second year of his reign, induced to restore to him the estates of his mother Lucia, and invest him with the Earldom of Lincoln. After this, exchanging certain lands in Normandy with Robert de Tillol, for the lordships of Hareby, Enderby, and Hundleby, parts of this soke, William was invited, by the security of the situation, to erect his castle at Bolingbroke, About the same time asserting the rights of the Empress Maud, in her contentions with Stephen for the throne, he greatly contributed to her early successes, particularly at the siege of Lincoln,

By his wife Maud, the daughter of Richard de Redvers, he had issue a son named William, who married Hawise daughter of Stephen earl of Albemarle; but dying in the life time of his father, the estates descended to his son, also called William. This William, the third of that name, to further improve his fortress, and add to the advantages of its situation, procured from Simon Briton, who also held lands in these parts, remission of all his claims in the whole marsh of Bolingbroke, and from Jeffrey Fitz Stephens, the master of the Knights Templars, a full release of their interest in all the fens belonging to this manor and its soke, which William de Romara his grandfather had given to them.

This last mentioned individual of the family of Romara died without issue, and in him the male line of the family ceased; which appears from Gilbert de Gaunt, after being a suppliant prisoner when fighting on the side of Stephen at the Seige of Lincoln, and compelled by the first William de Romara to marry his daughter Hawise, becoming in her right possessor of this manor, and receiving also the earldom of Lincoln.

Gilbert de Gaunt, died in the second year of the reign of Henry the second, and left issue, two daughters, Alice and Gunnora; the former of whom was married to Simon de St. Liz, earl of Huntingdon, who is said to have enjoyed, during her life time, the earldom of Lincoln, and with it this lordship. Alice as well as her sister Gunnora dying without issue, their uncle Robert de Gaunt, though unallied by blood, became their heir, and possessed himself of these estates. Gilbert his son succeeded him; but joined the cause of the barons against king John, and afterwards against his son and successor, Henry III., he was defeated at Lincoln, taken prisoner, and these estates conferred upon Ranulph de Meschines, surnamed de Blundeville, earl of Chester, who being third in descent from Ranulph earl of Chester, by his wife Lucia, the widow of Roger de Romara, had, independent of the claims on his sove-

reign for aiding in firmly establishing his family on the throne, a natural right, superior to that of the family of de Gaunt. Ranulph de Blundeville dying without issue, his sisters became his co-heiresses; but he had during his life time assigned by charter to one of them, named Hawise, the earldom of Lincoln, and with it this manor and castle.

Robert, son and heir of Sayer de Quincy, earl of Winchester, marrying Hawise, left issue, a daughter, Margaret, who was married to John de Laci, a descendant of the barons of Pontefract. John de Laci received from Henry III. a charter of confirmation of the earldom of Lincoln; and the inheritance which he possessed by his wife Margaret de Quincy.

Edmund his son dying before his mother, did not inherit the earldom, though he received the *tertium denarium* of the county. He left issue, Henry, John, and Margaret, the former of whom succeeded to this manor and the earldom of Lincoln; and is said to have been the most exalted nobleman of his time. He is stated to have been illustrious in counsel, undaunted in the fight, chief among the warriors of his country, and in fine, the brightest ornament of the reign.* His sons dying young he bequeathed all his possessions to the heirs of Edmund Plantagenet, in case of failure of issue by his daughter Alice. Thomas, earl of Lancaster, son of Edmund Plantagenet, marrying Alice, held in her right, the estates of her father Henry de Laci, who, on his death bed, desirous that his son in law should be ennobled not only by the attendant riches, but also by the influence of his example, enjoined him to devote his power to secure the liberties of his country. But the haughty and daring spirit of the earl of Lancaster needed no such incitements to spur him on to action. Indignant that Hugh de Spenser should enjoy the favor of his sovereign, Edward II., he after affected the destruction of Piers Gaveston, broke out into open rebellion: defeated however at Boroughbridge, he was ignominiously put to death at his castle of Pontefract, and his estates forfeited to the crown. The inheritances which were, as has been before noticed, the right of his wife were still reserved to her: but having borne an indifferent reputation for chastity, following the impulse of her amours in the life time of her late husband, and after his death marrying without the consent of the king to Eubold le Estrange, the king, with whom but trivial pretences were sufficient for abridging the powers of any individual allied to his haughty relatives of the house of Lancaster, seized for this breach of fealty, or homage, all the inheritance which she held of the crown in chief, among which were this manor, and that of Denbigh, and conferred the whole on his favourite Hugh de Spenser.†

Henry, brother of Thomas the late earl of Lancaster, procured in the first parliament after the accession of Edward the third, a remission of the forfeited estates of the family; and upon the death of the countess Alice, the wife of his late brother, her honors and splendid inheritances devolved to him, partly by the will of her father Henry de Laci, and partly by reason of a render made by him to Edward the first, and a re-grant by charter from that monarch to the heirs of Henry de Laci, with remainder to the heirs of Edmund Plantagenet.

* "Vir illustris in consilio, strenuus in prælio, princeps militæ in Angliæ, et in omni regno ornatissimus."
Weever's Fun. Mem. p. 366.

† Weir's Lincolnshire, p 402.

BOOK IV. Henry, earl of Lancaster, died without male issue, but left two daughters Maud and Blanche; the former of whom married William of Bavaria, and left no issue; but Blanche became the sole heir of her father, and married John of Gaunt, who, by reason of the inheritances, was created duke of Lancaster. By her he had issue, at the castle at this place, the celebrated Henry of Bolingbroke; upon whose accession to the throne as Henry the fourth, the whole patrimony, through the line of Lancaster, became invested in the crown; and in his reign was counted one of the manorial possessions of the king, denominated by way of peculiar distinction, "*honours.*"

Castle. On the south side of the town is the site of the castle, which is now only to be distinguished by the traces of its foundation, encompassed by a moat. The seclusion of this spot amongst steep hills, with only an opening to the level country, southward, rendered it, in the early mode of warfare, a desirable situation for a place of defence, since it was at all times secure from the emergencies of a sudden surprise. The advantages of such a situation were not overlooked by William de Romara, who in the early part of the reign of king Stephen, erected his castle at this place.

From the testimony of Mr. Gervase Holles, who is the only person that has left us a description of this castle, it appears to have been a very spacious square edifice, characterized in its construction by strength and uniformity, and containing beside numerous apartments, all the conveniences of warfare.

For the following description of the castle during the period of its early history, we are indebted to an extremely curious article in the Harleian M.S.S. No. 6829, p. 162.

"The castle of Bullingbrooke was built by William de Romara, Earle of Lincolne, and ennobled by the birth of King Henry the 4th, who from thence took his sirname. Heretofore it was a famous structure, but now gone much to ruine and decay.

"The towne standes in a bottome, and the castell in the lowest part of it, compassed about with a large moat fed by springs. It is most accessible on the south-west part, the rest being encompassed by the hills.

"As for the frame of the building, it lieth in a square, the area within the walls conteyning about an acre and a half; the building is very uniforme.

"It hath 4 stronge forts or ramparts, wherein are many roomes, and lodgings: the passage from one to another lying upon the walles, which are embattled about. There be likewise 2 watch-towers all covered with lead. If all the roomes in it were repayred, and furnished as it seems in former tymes they have bin it were capable to receyve a very great prince with all his trayne.

"The entrance into it is very stately over a faire draw-bridge. The gate-house a very uniforme, and strong building. Next within the porter's lodge is a payre of low stayres, which goe downe into a dungeon, in which some reliques are yet to be seene of a prison-house. Other 2 prisons more are on either side.

"The building itselfe is of a sandy stone hewen of a great square out of the rocks thereby, which though it abide the weather longe, yet [in process of tyme] it will moulder, especially if wett gett within it, which hath been the decay of many places of the wall where the roofe is uncovered.

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"There be certaine roomes within the castle, [built by Queen Elizabeth of freestone] amongst which is a fayre great chamber with other lodgings.

"In a roome in one of the towers of the castle they usually kept their audit once by the yeare for the whole Dutchy of Lancaster, having ever bin the prime seate thereof, where all the recordes for the whole countrey are kept.

"The constable of the castle is Sir William Mounson Lord Castlemayne, who receaveth a revenue out of the dutchy lands of £500. per annum, in part payment of £1000. yearely given by the King to the Countesse of Nottingham his lady.

"One thinge it not to be passed by affirmed as a certaine trueth by many of the inhabitants of the towne upon their owne knowledge, which is, that the castle is haunted by a certaine spirit in the likenesse of a hare: which att the meeting of the auditors doeth usually runne betweene their legs, and sometymes overthrows them, and soe passes away. They have pursued it downe into the castleyard, and seene it take in att a grate into a low cellar, and have followed it thither with a light, where notwithstanding that they did most narrowly observe it, [and that there was noe other passage out, but by the doore, or windowe, the roome being all close framed of stones within, not having the least chinke or crevice] yet they could never finde it. And att other tymes it hath been seene run in at the iron grates below into other of the grotto's [as their be many of them] and they have watched the place, and sent for hounds and put in after it; but after a while they have come crying out."

By queen Elizabeth the castle was improved by many elegant and extensive erections, and though afterwards neglected, yet it remained a place of importance down to the time of the civil wars in the reign of Charles the first, when it withstood a severe siege by the parliamentary forces.

After the defeat of the royal army at Winceby, however, this castle was compelled to yield to the army of the parliament, who, after dismantling it, left it silently to decay. For many years part of a circular building, said to be the gate-house, continued standing; but in May 1815, the last remaining fragment of this once formidable structure fell to the ground.*

To the east of the enclosure may be seen the entrenchments, behind which the assailants in 1643, protected themselves in their attack on this castle.

The town of Old Bolingbroke confers the title of Viscount on the family of St. John of Lydiard Tregaze, in Wiltshire.

New Bolingbroke.

In 1824 the town of NEW BOLINGBROKE sprang up, as if by magic on a portion of land allotted in lieu of the right of common after the enclosure of the fens. It is situated on the road between Boston and Horncastle, at the distance of nine miles from each place. Here the ancient market, once belonging to Old Bolingbroke has been revived, and is held weekly on Tuesday, and on the 10th of July an annual fair is held, altogether affording excellent promise that in the course of half a century New Bolingbroke will be a very important place. A manufactory was established for the weaving of crapes, and bombasins, similar to those of Norwich, but it did not realize the expectations that had been formed.

Spilsby.

SPILSBY, 32 miles from Lincoln, stands on an eminence, overlooking towards the south, a large tract of marsh and fen land that is bounded by Boston Deeps and the German Ocean.

* An Engraving of this ruin occurs in Weir's Lincolnshire, p. 405.

 It was formerly of little consequence since we find that both this place and Eresby, were merely hamlets of the adjoining parish of Hundleby. The market also, is traditionally stated to have been removed hither from the adjacent village of Partney.

Manor. Spilsby, according to Magna Britannia, was given, in the division of lands by William the Conqueror, to Eudo and Pinco, two of his Norman followers, and the adjacent Hamlet of Eresby fell to the share of the latter. Dugdale, however, differs from this account, and states that this, among other lordships, was given by William to Walter de Bec, also one of his Norman followers. This Walter married Agnes, daughter and heir of the above named Pinco, and his successors held the estate until the time of Edward the first, when, upon failure of male issue, it passed to Sir William Willoughby, in right of his wife, Alice de Bec. It afterwards came by marriage to the Berties, one of whom, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, was summoned to parliament, as baron Willoughby of Eresby. Subsequently the Berties had conferred upon them the titles of earl and marquis of Lindsey, and afterwards of duke of Ancaster and Kesteven. In 1779, the manor passed to Sir Peter Burrell, afterwards lord Gwydyr, who had married lady Willoughby, daughter of Peregrine, third duke of Ancaster and Kesteven.

At Eresby was formerly a very elegant mansion, belonging to the duke of Ancaster, which, in 1769, was destroyed by fire, and has not since been rebuilt, an avenue of trees, extending from the road to the house is now in a state of rapid decay.

Church. In the twenty-second year of Edward the third, a chapel in this parish was converted into a college of secular canons, for a master and twelve priests, by Sir John Willoughby. At the dissolution of religious houses, its possessions were granted to Catherine, Duchess of Suffolk, the heiress of the Willoughby's, upon whose marriage afterwards with Richard Bertie, Esq., the estates passed into that family. The dwellings for the fraternity of this establishment are entirely gone; the church only is remaining, and is situated on the western side of the town. It is an irregular building, consisting of three aisles, with a handsome embattled tower at the west end, which appears to be a more modern erection than the rest of the church, and was probably built about the time of Henry the seventh. The north aisle is very narrow, the other two are spacious, and the southernmost being of greater extent than the others has its eastern extremity used as a chancel. At the east end of the central aisle is a chapel, contained several ancient tombs and monuments, some of which are traditionally said to have been removed from the chapel of Eresby.

Monuments. On the south side of the chapel is a tomb, on which is laid an alabaster figure of a knight in armour, under his head a helmet, encircled by a coronet, and at his feet, a lion; on the sides of the tomb are shields, containing the arms of Bec, Ufford, Willoughby, Scales, and others.

On the same side is another tomb, whereon are laid the figures of a knight in complete armour and a lady. Under the head of the knight is a Saracen's head, crowned, and set upon a helmet; and at his feet, a lion. The dress of the lady is very splendid. Holles, in describing it, says, "Hirs is a rare piece of workmanship. Upon her head a cawle of fretty worke, with double roses, a fillet of embroidery of diamonds and pearles turned up from her brow, the whole breadth of her forehead, hir necke all bare, her gown according to due proportion of her body, sitting close above, and so by degrees falling, and closing to the slender of her

middle, downe along before a fayre border of buttons with stringes hanging downe on either side thereof tasseled below, and above on either side entwined, and fastened to two table diamondes, a border of Goldsmithes of Akornes branched, going a crosse over hir breast, and soe alonge downe towards hir middle, and then turned rounde to hir trayne behinde, hir sleeves close with a border along from the elbow, seamed with pearles, hir cuffes covering hir handes to the knuckles, ringes upon hir fingers. Hir head couched upon a pillow, which lyes upon a boulster tasselled, at either ende supported by two antiques couchant, with longe beards, and cowles about their neckes, and sitting barefooted; under his feete, 3 little beagles with collars of rounde beades.

"On the side of it divers Escocheons, the colours worne out, onely yet there is to be seene on one 6 Mascles, on another coate Besantee, as it seemes, then 6 Mascles againe on the side to the quire. At their feet their is empaled a Saltier with a crosse patonce."

On the north side of the chapel is another tomb ornamented with double pinnacles at each corner, whereon are laid the figures in stone of a knight and a lady. The knight is habited in complete armour, and has a shield on his arm, whereon is a cross cercely, the arms of Bec, his legs are crossed, and at his feet is a lion. The lady lies on his right, and has a border of roses round her head, and a dog beneath her feet. The pillows on which their heads rest, are supported at each end by a small couchant figure.*

On the floor is a stone, inlaid with the effigies in brass, of a knight and lady, under canopies, but the shields of arms, and the inscriptions from the verge, have long since been lost.

At the west end of the chapel is a tomb inscribed as follows:—

"Sepulchrum Dni Richardi Berty, et Dnæ Catharinæ Ducissæ Suffolciæ de Willugby, et Eresby Conjugum. Ista obiit decimo nono Septembris 1580. Ille obiit nono Aprilis 1582." Above the tomb is a monument, the frontispiece of which is enriched with frett-work, garnished with roses. It is divided into two compartments, each containing an arch, under which are placed busts of the persons whose memory it is intended to perpetuate. On the south side is the figure of a hermit, bearing on his head an escutcheon, containing the arms of Willoughby and Bec, quartered; in the centre, between the arches, is the statue of a naked Saracen, displaying the arms of Ufford and Bec, quartered; and on the north side is a figure of a wild man, elevating the arms of Bertie, quartering a triple towered castle. Over the hermits head is a bat displayed; the figure above the Saracen is defaced; but over the wild man is a Saracen's head, crowned. At the top of each statue is an antique figure, and under their feet death's heads. At the back of the monument are six tables, containing inscriptions, five of which are in latin, the other in English rhyme; below are shields containing arms of Wells, Dayncourt, Umfreville, &c.

Against the north wall of the chapel is a tomb, bearing the figure of a lady veiled, reclining on her right side; at her feet is an infant in a cradle, covered with a mantle of green. Behind her are two arches; above which is a niche, containing the figure of a knight in

* This, together with the two previously mentioned tombs, being much mutilated, were extensively repaired a few years ago.

BOOK IV. armour, with his helmet and gauntlet at his feet. Under the arches are tablets, containing an inscription to Sir Peregrine Bertie, Knt.,* as follows:—

"This presents unto you the worthy memory of the Right Honourable Sir Peregrine Bertie, Knight, Lord Willoughby of Willoughby, Beake, and Eresby, deservedly employed by Queene Elizabeth, as Generall of hir forces in the Low Countreys, and in France, as Embassadour into Denmarke, and lastly as Governour of Barwicke, where he died in the 47th yeare of his age. Anno 1600, leaving issue by his wife the Lady Mary Vere, daughter to John, Earle of Oxford, five sonnes and daughters, viz. Robert, Lord Willughby, Generall of the English Forces in Denmark, Peregrine, Henry, Vere, and Roger, and this virtuous Lady Catherine, wife to Sir Lewis Watson of Rockingham, where she died in childbed the 15th of February 1610, desiring to be here buryed with her father, for whom at her request, and for herselfe, in his owne affection, the sayd Sir Lewis hath erected this monument, as a marke of boeth their virtues to all posterity. Anno Dni 1612.

The benefice is a curacy, and the church is dedicated to St. James.

Town. Spilsby contains four streets or lanes uniting at the market place, which forms a spacious area, intersected in the middle by a row of houses, with the market cross at the east end, and the town hall at the western extremity. The market cross consists of a plain octagonal shaft, with a quadrangular base, terminating with a modern fane, the whole is elevated on five steps. The town hall is a plain brick edifice, standing on arches, which was rebuilt by subscription in 1764.

The general quarter sessions of the peace, for the southern division of the parts of Lindsey, are holden, alternately at this place and Louth. In the year 1826 a new sessions house and prison were erected, which are situated at the western entrance of the town. The front, which is ornamented with an elegant portico of the Grecian Doric order, contains the court, the residence of the keeper, and rooms for the magistrates and jurors. The wings contain the entrances to the prison, and the magistrates rooms. At the back is the prison, with yards for the prisoners, which are so contrived, as to be overlooked by the windows of the keeper's dwelling.

School. In this town is a grammar school, endowed with lands, for the education of thirty free scholars. There are also two Sunday schools, supported by voluntary subscriptions, which are attached to the independent and methodist chapels. The town also possesses a book society, and a subscription news room.

In 1821, Spilsby, with the hamlet of Eresby, contained 215 houses, and 1234 inhabitants.

The Market is held on Monday, weekly; and the fairs on the Monday before Whitsunday, Monday after Whit-Monday, Monday fortnight after Whit-Sunday, if it fall in May, if not there is not any fair, second Monday in July, and September the sixth for all sorts of cattle.

West Keal. WEST KEAL is distant about three miles south-westward from Spilsby, on the road between that place and Boston.

The benefice is a rectory, valued in the kings books at £20. 1s. 8d. The church, which

* Sir Peregrine Bertie was a celebrated military character. He was born at Wesel, in the Duchy of Cleve, in Germany, when his parents were travelling, during the persecutions of Queen Mary; and from the circumstance of his being born during their peregrinations, the name of Peregrine was given him.

is dedicated to St. Helen, is a neat spacious building, and occupies a commanding situation on the summit of a very high hill, overlooking the level lands to the south. The parish has, for many years, been the seat of a family named Cracroft. According to the returns in 1821, at that period it contained 90 houses, and 502 inhabitants. It is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster.

Hagnaby. HAGNABY commonly called Hornby, is situated on the road between Bolingbroke and Boston, at the distance of one mile south-ward from the former place.* It contains the seat of a family named Coltman.

The benefice is a discharged vicarage valued in the Kings Books at £8. The church dedicated to St. Andrew is a small modern building. The parish, in 1821, contained 14 houses, and 91 inhabitants.

Stickford. STICKFORD stands on the turnpike road between Spilsby and Boston, at the distance of six miles south-eastward from the former place.

The benefice is a discharged vicarage valued in the King's Books at £6. 3s. 6d. The annual valuation according to Parochial returns £140. The church is a neat building, possessing no claim to attention; Patron, the Bishop of Lincoln. The parish, in 1821, contained 71 houses and 343 inhabitants.

Stickney. STICKNEY is a considerable village, on the turnpike road between Spilsby and Boston, at the distance of eight miles from the former place, and nine from the latter. It contains a free school, endowed in 1678, by Mr. William Lovell, with fifty acres of land, which is vested in nine trustees.

The benefice is a rectory, valued in the King's Books at £13. 11s. 3d. The church dedicated to St. Luke, is a neat but uninteresting building. Patron, Rev. Richard Loxham. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 154, and of inhabitants 763.

Sibsey. SIBSEY is a large village, distant about five miles northward from Boston, and situated on the road between that place and Spilsby,

The benefice is a discharged vicarage valued in the King's Books at £11. 11s. 3d. annual valuation according to Parochial Returns £142. 14s. Patron, the lord chancellor.

The church, which is a spacious edifice, appears to have been originally a Saxon structure; of this, the circular arche supporting the clere-story, the north doorway, and the lower part of the tower are convincing proofs. In the chancel are three handsome stone stalls, and a piscina. The parish possesses a free school, with a small endowment, and in 1821 contained 255 houses, occupied by 1354 inhabitants.

The parochial allotments of Friestone, Fishtoft, and Skirbeck, in the fen district, form separate constablewicks in this soke.

Frith-Ville. FRITH-VILLE is a portion of the fen district, distant about four miles northward from Boston, which was rendered parochial by act of parliament in 1812. In 1821, it contained 38 houses, and 272 inhabitants.

West-Ville. WEST-VILLE is also a portion of the East Fen, distant about six miles southward from Spilsby, which in 1821, contained 15 houses, and 162 inhabitants.

Carrington. CARRINGTON is a portion of the fen district, rendered parochial in 1812, when the present

* It is rather remarkable that this place, as well as Hagnaby in the Marsh, should be called Hornby.—Beer.

BOOK IV. appellation was given to it at the request of Lord Carrington, who is the principal proprietor. It is situated about seven miles northward from Boston, and contains a small newly erected church. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 15, and of inhabitants 100.

Revesby. REVESBY stands at the distance of about six miles south from Horncastle on the road from that place to Boston, and in 1821 contained 113 houses and 572 inhabitants. The parish of Revesby appears formerly to have consisted of three distinct manors, Revesby, Thoresby, and Seithsby, the greater part of which was the property of William de Romara, earl of Lincoln.

Abbey. In the year 1142 he founded a Cisterian abbey here, and was assisted in this pious undertaking by his wife, Hawise, and his son William. By them it was amply endowed with lands, and subsequently more enriched by numerous benefactions. It was dedicated to St. Lawrence; and its annual revenues at the dissolution, were valued at £349. 4s. 10d. The site was then (1538) granted to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. The charter of this religious foundation is preserved in Dugdale's Monasticon, and, among a variety of particulars respecting exchanges of lands, manner of grants, and other matters, is this singular fact: It appears that, in order to give greater solemnity to the ceremony of foundation, the earl, on petition, manumitted, or restored to liberty several *slaves*. One of them was named Wilhelmus Medicus, a physician; another is called Rogerus Barkarius, who was probably a shepherd, as it is well known, persons and families at that period took their surnames from the occupation or profession they followed.

The Abbots Lodge, which constituted part of an ancient mansion, now forms the offices belonging to a house built by Craven Howard, son of the earl of Berkshire, but since considerably enlarged by the family of Banks. It was possessed by the justly celebrated Sir Joseph Banks, who, while a resident here, laudably set an example to the gentlemen of the neighbourhood, by the numerous agricultural and other improvements he made, or suggested in the surrounding districts. The house stands upon an elevated spot, and commands a view over the east and west fens, which, in the summer months display a vast tract of flat country. The monastery which stood at a considerable distance has long since been entirely destroyed.

Tumuli. Near Revesby is an encampment, with a broad foss inclosing an area of land, which measures about 300 feet from east to west, and 100 from north to south, at each end is a large and lofty tumulus, about one hundred feet in diameter, of similar form and position, having a space of one hundred feet between. "It seems to have been a place of sepulture; perhaps two British king's were there buried, and the height on the north side was the place whereon they sacrificed horses, and the like, to the manes of the deceased. Or is it a place of religious worship among the old Britons, and the two hills may possibly be the temples of the sun and moon? I am inclined to think it ancient, because of the measure. The breadth is equal to 100 celtic feet, as I call them, the length to 300.*

Church. The benefice of Revesby is a vicarage, exempt from jurisdiction, and of the certified value of £31. The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, is a small neat structure, which was rebuilt by one of the Banks family. At the east end of the chancel is a tablet containing an inscription to Nehemiah Rawson, Esq., who died in 1657; and another to Henry Howard, third son of Thomas Howard, earl of Berkshire, who died in 1663. On the north side of the

* Stukely's Itin. Curios. p. 28.

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chancel is a large marble monument, surmounted by the bust of the individual whose memory it perpetuates, and containing a latin inscription to Joseph Banks, Esq. who died in 1727.

Alms Houses.

At a short distance from the church are ten alms houses, which were built by Joseph Banks, Esq. and endowed by him with fifty pounds a year.

A fair is held at Revesby on the second Monday after old Michaelmas day, annually.

Sir Joseph Banks.

The Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Baronet, was born in London on the thirteenth of December, 1743. He was the only son of William Banks, esquire of this parish, who died in 1761, leaving him, at the age of eighteen, possessed of an ample fortune. He was at that time a member of the University of Oxford; and it was in the retirement of collegiate studies that he acquired his taste for natural history.

Immediately on his leaving the University, in 1763, he made a voyage to the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador, and returned with those habits of investigation which are induced by a contemplation of rare and novel objects.

Having become a member of the Royal Society, his desire for further investigation of new worlds was again excited by the plan proposed by that learned body, for observing the expected transit of Venus, from one of the South Sea Islands. No sooner did Mr. Banks understand that the Endeavour, commanded by Captain (then Lieutenant) Cook, was equipping for her voyage, and intended to prosecute further discovery after the observation of the transit, than he determined to embark in the expedition. Mr. Banks entered upon his preparations with a most generous spirit; providing himself with two draughtsmen, a secretary, and four servants, together with all the necessary books, and instruments. He was also accompanied by Dr. Solander, a Swedish gentleman, who had been the pupil of Linnæus.

On the 26th of August, 1768, the Endeavour sailed from Plymouth, on this great expedition. In the passage to Madeira, Mr. Banks, and his companions discovered many marine animals, which no naturalist had described. At Madeira, as they sailed on to Rio Janeiro, their vigilance was still eagerly awake, and sufficiently gratified by observations and specimens new to science. The jealousy of the Portuguese greatly disappointed their curiosity by forbidding their researches at Rio Janeiro.

On Wednesday, April 12, 1769, the Endeavour arrived at Otaheite. For three months the voyagers continued at this and the contiguous isles, making the astronomical observations, for the sake chiefly of which Lieutenant Cook was sent out; surveying, as navigators, the coasts of the different isles; collecting specimens of the natural productions peculiar to them; and studying the language, manners, and arts of the islanders.

In August, 1769, the Endeavour sailed from the last isle of the group. In October they made New Zealand, which had not been visited since Tasman's voyage. They next sailed to New Holland, chiefly along the east coast, and gave the name of New South Wales to the adjacent territory. The ship here struck upon a rock, and was saved only by extraordinary skill. In laying her down for repairs the sea broke in, and spoiled the greater part of Mr. Banks's specimens of natural history: but he was recompensed by the discovery of the Kangaroo. In August, 1770, they sailed for New Guinea. On their homeward voyage, their short stay at Batavia was nearly fatal to the expedition. Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander caught the fever. Tupia, a priest, and a boy named Tayeto, both from Otaheite, who were proceeding to England, died. Every person of the crew but one was taken ill. Seven died at

BOOK IV. Batavia, and twenty-three more within six weeks after. On the 12th of June, 1771, the vessel anchored in the downs.

Early in 1772 an expedition was prepared under the command of Captain Cook, to proceed in search of the so much talked of Southern Continent, in which Mr. Banks most anxiously took a part, intending to perform the voyage; and he accordingly prepared his establishment upon the most extensive scale. On this account orders were given to the Admiralty for fitting the ships out with every possible accommodation that Mr. Banks could desire; but when the Resolution sailed from Long Reach for Plymouth, she was found so very crank from the additional upper works, that she was obliged to be carried into Sheerness to have the additional cabins cut away, with such other alterations as were necessary to make her sea-worthy. This of course struck at the very root of Mr. Banks's project, in curtailing him of the space and accommodation absolutely necessary for the establishment which he had formed; and he was reluctantly compelled to give up his plans.

Disappointed in this expedition, Mr. Banks was prompted to engage in some other active research, and accordingly determined on a voyage to Iceland and the western islands of Scotland; partly for the purpose of scientific observation, and, as Van Troil states, who accompanied him, in order to keep together and employ the draughtsmen, and other persons who had been engaged for the South Sea expedition.

They sailed from the river in July, and called at Portsmouth, thence to Plymouth, and proceeded up St. George's channel, to the western islands, visiting Oransay, Columbkill, Scarba, and Staffa, so remarkable for its basaltic columns, but until then comparatively unknown. They passed the Orkneys and Shetland islands without any particular investigation; and on the 28th of August, 1772, arrived off the coast of Iceland. After completely investigating every thing curious, they left Iceland, and arrived at Edinburgh in November, from whence they set off by land for London.

After his return Mr. Banks passed his time principally in London, or at his paternal seat at Revesby, surrounded by men of letters, and by persons of high rank and fortune; and dedicating his time and fortune to scientific pursuits.

Sir John Pringle having retired from the office of president of the Royal Society in 1777, Mr. Banks was called to fill the vacant chair, when his ample fortune enabled him to commence a system by which his house became, through a long series of years, a scene of hospitality to genius of every country, and of every rank in society.

The close attention which the president now paid to the duties of his station, induced him to select a rural retirement nearer to London than his seat at Revesby; he therefore, in the year 1779, took a lease of the premises, which he afterwards purchased, at Spring Grove, in the parish of Heston, in Middlesex; and on the 29th of March in the same year, he married Dorothea, daughter and co-heiress of William Weston Hugeson, Esq., of Provender, in in the parish of Norton, county of Kent.

In 1781, Mr. Banks was honoured by his sovereign with a baronetcy, as he was some years afterwards, by being created a knight of the Bath, and sworn one of his majesty's honourable Privy Counsel.

Sir Joseph was re-elected to the presidency of the Royal Society, for several years, with an unanimous feeling; but the jealousies of some members, of splendid and commanding

talents, began to be developed. It was charged against him, that in the recommendation of candidates, he bowed rather to the pretensions of rank, than to the unobtrusive, but undoubted claims of eminent ability. This feeling so far extended itself, that in 1784, a dignitary of the church, distinguished for his mathematical learning, threatened a secession in the following terms:—"If other remedies fail, we can at least secede. When the hour of secession comes, the president will be left with his train of feeble amateurs, and that toy upon the table, the ghost of that society in which Philosophy once reigned, and Newton presided as her minister." The very temper of this burst of eloquence is a proof of the causes of the schism. The pride of genius was opposed to the pride of rank, and the conflict was as obstinate as it was violent. The President maintained his position firmly, and he lived to behold that intimate union which ought ever to exist between the patrons and the votaries of learning. CHAP. IV.

Beside devoting his attention to the duties of the chair of the Royal Society, Sir Joseph became an active member of all the public societies of the day; and to his care in a great degree the African Association owes its origin. He also liberally encouraged and assisted those who undertook voyages or travels of discovery. In his attentions to the breeding of sheep and cattle, and to the improvements in husbandry, he gave many instances of scientific patriotism; and to his exertions may be attributed the drainage of the fens in the immediate vicinity of Revesby. To the Horticultural society, which he assisted in forming, he was a contributor of several papers. In politics he took no ostensible part, and had not even a seat in parliament.

During the latter years of his life, Sir Joseph was so severely afflicted with the gout, as to be deprived of the use of his lower extremities, and consequently unable to take his accustomed exercise. In 1817 he was by death deprived of his sister, a loss which he severely felt. In April, 1820, in consequence of increasing debility, he expressed a wish to resign his office of President of the Royal Society, but his resignation the society were unwilling to accept of, and he continued to hold the office until his death, which took place on the 19th of the following month. His remains were interred in the church yard at Heston. Having no issue his title is extinct. After the death of his widow, his estates in Lincolnshire go to Sir Henry Hawley, baronet, and the heirs of the Honourable James Hamilton Stanhope; the remainder of his estates to Sir Edward Knatchbull, baronet. His valuable and extensive library he bequeathed to the British Museum.

Hundleby. The village of HUNDLEBY is situated about half a mile westward from Spilsby, on the road between that place and Horncastle.

The benefice is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at £7. 19s. 4d., annual valuation according to the parochial returns, £100. The church is an uninteresting building, dedicated to St. Mary. In 1821, the parish contained 66 houses, and 348 inhabitants.

Raithby. RAITHBY is situate about two miles westward from Spilsby, the road between that place and Horncastle passing through the village. It has been for many years the seat of a family named Blackenbury, whose residence is pleasantly situated near the road, from which it forms an agreeable object.

The benefice is a discharged rectory with that of Hallington, not in charge. The church,

BOOK IV. dedicated to St. Peter, is a small building, void of interest. The parish, in 1821, contained 36 houses, and 149 inhabitants.

Mavis Enderby. MAVIS ENDERBY is situated about three miles west from Spilsby, and in 1821, contained 35 houses, and 149 inhabitants. The benefice is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £12. 11s. 2d. The church is a neat building, the porch whereof contains a mutilated bason for holy water, standing on a shaft of clustered pillars; dedicated to St. Michael. Patron, the Rev. C. Semple.

Lusby. The village of LUSBY is situated about four miles west from Spilsby, and about six miles eastward from Horncastle. The benefice is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at £6. 14s. 0d. The church is a small mean building, dedicated to St. Peter. The parish in 1821, contained 22 houses and 126 inhabitants.

Halton. HALTON, commonly called Halton Holegate, is distant about one mile eastward from Spilsby, on the road between that place and Wainfleet. This place was the seat of Sir Charles Hussey, who for his adherence to the cause of Charles the first, in the disputes between that monarch and the parliament, had his estates taken from him, for the redemption of which, he was forced to pay a large fine.

The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £16. 17s. 11d. The church, which is dedicated to St. Andrew, is a spacious structure, and consists of a tower, a nave with aisles, and a chancel. It contains the figure in stone, of a knight in chain armour, with his legs crossed, a lion at his feet; and a lion rampant on his shield. This figure is in the south aisle, and is laid upon a tomb, the top stone of which has been inlaid with brass, not a particle of which is remaining. In the floor near to this tomb, is a coffin-shaped stone, inscribed in Norman French, to Sir Walter Bek. In the floor of the north aisle is a stone, containing a figure in brass of a lady, under which is an inscription to Bridget, the wife of John Rudgeley, who died in 1658, aged 21. The parish, in 1821, contained 94 houses, and 460 inhabitants.

Thorpe. THORPE is situated about two miles westward from Wainfleet, and is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster. The benefice is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at £20. 19s. 4d. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a mean building. The parish, in 1821, contained 63 houses, and 381 inhabitants.

Little Steeping. LITTLE STEEPING is situated on the south side of the river Limb, at the distance of about four miles south-eastward from Spilsby. The benefice is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £9. 19s. 4d. The church is a small neat building, containing nothing interesting. Patron, lord Gwydyr. The parish, in 1821, contained 50 houses, and 278 inhabitants.

Toynton Saint Peter's. TOYNTON SAINT PETER'S is an obscure village, distant about two miles southward from Spilsby. The benefice is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £12. 0s. 2d. The church is a mean building. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 66, and of inhabitants 349. It is part of the duchy of Lancaster.

Toynton All Saint's. TOYNTON ALL SAINTS is distant about one mile southward from Spilsby. The benefice is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at £5. 11s. 3d. The church is a modern building. The parish which is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster, contained in 1821, 61 houses, and 342 inhabitants.

EAST-KEAL is situated on the turnpike road between Spilsby and Boston, at the distance of about a mile and a half south-westward from the former place. East Keal.

The parish is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster, and in 1821, contained 58 houses, and 313 inhabitants.

The benefice is a discharged rectory in the archdeaconry of Lincoln, rated in the king's books at £17. 11s. 8d. Patron Mrs. Mary Pine, Gates. The church, which is a tolerable structure, contains in the north wall a bust, without any inscription; and in the south wall, a whole length female figure, holding an inverted torch, with an inscription wherein the name of Susanna Kirkman, is to be decyphered.

There are some chalybeate springs in this parish.

EAST-VILLE, situated about eight miles south-eastward from Spilsby, is a portion of the East Fen land, which was rendered parochial, pursuant to an act of parliament passed in 1821. In 1821, it contained 17 houses, and 118 inhabitants. East-Ville.

MID-VILLE is another portion of the East Fen, about seven miles southward from Spilsby, rendered parochial by act of parliament in 1821. It possesses a good modern built Church. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 31, and of inhabitants 180. Mid-Ville.

EAST KIRBY is situated on the road between Spilsby and Tattershall, at the distance of about five miles south-westward from the former place, and about seven miles south-eastward from Horncastle. The parish, which is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster, in 1821, contained 63 houses, occupied by 347 persons. East Kirby.

The benefice is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £5. 12s. 1d. Annual valuation according to Parochial returns £150. Patron T. Thornhill Esq. The church consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower on the south side, the lower part of which forms a porch. The village contains a free school, with a small endowment. This parish was the birth-place of John Webberley, a zealous partizan of Charles I. in the contentions between that monarch and the parliament. For his loyalty, and also for maintaining Socinian principles, he became an object of persecution, and in the year 1648, he suffered much from imprisonment; and afterwards was expelled from Lincoln college, Oxford, where he was educated.

MININGSBY is situated about six miles south-eastward from Horncastle, and in 1821, contained 22 houses, and 134 inhabitants. Miningsby.

The benefice is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £9. 8s. 6½d. Patron. the Chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster. The church is a very mean building.

ASGARBY is a very small village, distant about six miles south-eastward from Horncastle. The parish in 1821, contained 15 houses, and 57 inhabitants. Asgarby.

Its church is a small mean building.

HAREBY is a small village, obscurely situated at the distance of one mile north-westward from Bolingbroke, and in 1821, contained 13 houses, and 71 inhabitants. Hareby.

The benefice is a discharged rectory, with that of Bolingbroke, valued in the king's books at £6. 4s. 7d. Patron, Earl Brownlow. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a small mean structure.

The Wapentake of CANDLESHOE is bounded on the north by Calceworth Hundred, on the east by the German Ocean, on the south by Skirbeck wapentake and on the west by Wapentake of Candleshoe.

Hill hundred and Bolingbroke soke. It is also separated into Marsh and Wold divisions.

Marsh division.

The MARSH DIVISION contains the market towns of Burgh and Wainfleet, and the villages of Northolme, Friskney, Orby, Addlethorpe, Ingoldwells, Winthorpe, Skegness, and Croft.

Wold division

The WOLD DIVISION of the wapentake contains the parishes of Driby, Sutterby, Dalby with Dexthorpe and Forthington, Skendleby, Welton, Scremby, Candlesby, Gunby, Bratoft, Ashby, Great Steeping, Irby, Firsby, and Partney.

Wainfleet, All Saints.

WAINFLEET, ALL SAINTS, the most considerable town in the Wapentake, is distant from Boston, about seventeen miles, and from London one hundred and thirty-three. In 1821, the parish contained 186 houses, and 878 inhabitants. The town stands on a creek, through which the river Limb empties itself into the German Ocean, about five miles below the town, at a tongue of land called Gibralter Point. Dr. Stukeley affirms that Wainfleet was the *Vainona,* mentioned by Ravennas, and whence he supposed the name evidently derived. "The ancient haven was near St. Thomas's church, now called Northolm; 'tis still very deep thereabouts, and appears to have been broad, being a pretty good river."* But by diverting the waters of the fens more southerly, towards Boston, that place became the port town, in consequence of which, the haven of Wainfleet was neglected. A road across the fen is still called *Salter's Road,* which Stukely observes, was probably the "Roman Road" between Banovallum Lindum, &c.; many salt hills are visible from Wainfleet to Friskney. The king is still lord of the soil of this old Roman city.†

Another writer, speaking of the ancient ports upon this coast, says, "Wainfleet was a more considerable port, (than Wrangle,) of which we have still many notices; and some vestiges are said to be visible, from whence we might be tempted to think it was constructed by the Romans."‡

This conjecture of Dr. Stukeley's will receive additional confirmation, by the consideration that there is not another place in this part of the county, so well calcutated for a sea-port, and consequently none so likely to attract the attention of the enterprising Romans in selecting a spot for the erection of a city. The haven being at that period the only place on the coast where their vessels could ride in safety, and find protection from the north, and northwest winds, which so frequently prove fatal to the navigation on these shores.

About 40 acres of land to the westward of the present town, are considerably higher than the surrounding lands, and it most probably was on this elevated ground that "Vainona" flourished. To the eastward of the town are two artificial tumuli; these, if not places of sepulture for some eminent persons, were possibly cast up by the Romans for the purpose of erecting beacons, to direct vessels coming into the haven from the German Ocean. There is a tradition that the marsh near the clow was anciently a bay for shipping, and it is certain, from the remains of creeks in the pastures, that the sea formerly covered the marshes in Wainfleet St. Mary, as far as the high road leading to Boston.§

* Stukeley's Itin. Curios. vol i. p 28-9.

† Stukeley's Itin. Curios. vol. i. p. 29.

‡ Campbell's Political survey of Great Britain, vol. i. p. 265.

§ Oldfield's account of Wainfleet, p. 24. 1829.

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Baxter derives the present name from the British word *Wayn*, a marsh; and the Anglo Saxon *Fleot* or *Flod*, an estuary. The translator of the Saxon Chronicle says, *Wen* signifies a contest or victory. The former, however is the most probable derivation.

Manor.

At the time of the great Norman Survey, Earl Hugh was in possession of the principal estates in this parish. This personage was Hugh de Abrincis or Lupus, nephew to the Conqueror, by whom he was created earl of Chester in 1067. The following character is given of him Ordericus. "He was not abundantly liberal, but profusely prodigal, and carried, not so much a family, as an army still along with him; he took no account either of his receipts or disbursements: he daily wasted his estate, and delighted more in falconers and huntsmen, than the tillers of land, or heavens orators, the ministers: he was much given to his belly, whereby in time he grew so fat that he could scarce crawl: he had many bastard sons and bastard daughters, but they were almost all swept away by sundry misfortunes." It is, however, said, that he at length became so devout, that he was shorn a monk, in the abbey of St. Werburge, at Chester, where he died in 1101.

Richard, his only legitimate child, succeeded him. He, with his wife, Maud, daughter of Stephen, earl of Blois, William and Richard, sons to king Henry, and near one hundred and eighty of the nobility, perished in their passage from Harfleur in 1119, being then in his twenty-fifth year. Leaving no issue he was succeeded in his titles and estates by his cousin Ranulph de Meschines, who died, leaving issue by Lucy, daughter of Algar, earl of Leicester, and widow of Roger de Romara, earl of Lincoln, Ranulph, his successor; William, earl of Cambridge, and two daughters.

This Ranulph, surnamed de Gernons, succeeded his father in all his patrimony. He gave to the abbey of Fors or Wandesleydale, in Yorkshire, a salt pit in Wainfleet, betwixt the fort and the sea, on the east side of the haven. He died in 1153, not without suspicion of having been poisoned; leaving issue, Hugh, Richard, and Beatrix, the former of whom succeeded to his estates, and was known by the surname of Keveliok. He was for some time in rebellion against Henry II. He died at Leek, in Staffordshire, and was buried at Chester, A. D. 1181. By his wife, Bertred, daughter of Simon, earl of Evereux, in Normandy, he had issue Ranulph, his successor, and four daughters; Maud, the eldest married David, earl of Huntingdon; Mabel, the second, married William D'Albini, earl of Arundel; Agnes, the third, married William Ferrars, earl of Derby; and Hawise, the fourth, married Robert, son and heir of Sayer de Quincy, earl of Winchester.

Ranulph the third, surnamed Blundeville, was successor to his father, Hugh. He was also duke of Brittany, and earl of Richmond, the barony of Lancaster, and was earl of Lincoln. It was this earl, who being once under the necessity of taking shelter in Rothelent Castle in Flintshire, was there beseiged by the Welsh; but was delivered from his danger by the rabble met together at Chester fair. Ranulph Blundeville died without issue in 1232, when his estates were divided amongst his sisters. Hawise, the wife of Robert de Quincy, had the earldom of Lincoln, the honour and castle of Bolingbroke, and all the possessions of earl Ranulph in Lindsey and Holland, in Lincolnshire.

This statement, extracted from the Pipe Rolls, is not altogether correct, as it is evident from the Testa de Nevill, that both the earl of Arundel, who married the second sister,

BOOK IV. and Ferrars, earl of Derby, who married the third sister, had a share in almost all his possessions in this wapentake.

General Notices. The first mention of Wainfleet after the conquest is in the 12th Henry II. (1166.) In that year the town was amerced in a fine of forty marks, for taking toll unjustly. Two years after the town was fined five marks for the same offence.*

Somewhere about this period, Philip de Kyme, presented the church of Wainfleet to the abbey of Bardney. In the reign of Richard I. Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, granted a charter to the abbey of Bardney, reciting and confirming their possessions, amongst which is mentioned one bovate of land, and a salt pan adjoining, in the parish of Wainfleet. Gilbert de Gaunt, confirmed to the abbey the Gift of Bonde de Stepinge of two acres of land in this neighbourhood, and one sextarium of salt. This occurred in the reign of Henry the third. At the period of the reformation, the possessions belonging to this abbey in Wainfleet were valued at £2. 8s. 8d. per annum.†

In the eleventh year of King Edward III., this place returned to the grand council, one burgess, whose name was John Mawson, a ship owner, and in the year 1359 the port furnished two ships, and forty-nine men to the navy, with which king Edward invaded Brittany.

A. D. 1486, Thomas Kyme of Friskney, and others had the port of Wainfleet to farm, with market and windmill, as also the court of the said market and haven, and fishing with the same, paying an annual rent of twenty pounds and supporting all charges belonging to the said haven, mills, and fishing. In 1538, Augustine Massingberd Esq. purchased of Sir John Markham his manor in Wainfleet.

The celebrated antiquary, Leland, who flourished in the reign of Henry VIII. gives the following brief notice of this place:

"To Wainflete (from Skegness) about a 5 miles It hath been a very good Toune, and yn it 2 paroche churches. Shippelets came *in hominum memoria* up to the schole. The haven now decayith. Paynell sayith that as he rememberith, there is a place called the Castill Hill at Wainflete. The schole that Wainflete, Bishop of Winchester made and endowed with X£. lande, is the most notable thing."

In 1547 Robert Dighton Esq. son of Robert Dighton, alderman of Lincoln, died seized of the patronage of the Rectory of Wainfleet, which he held of the king *in capite*, by one twentieth part of a knights fee, valued at £5. 17s. 0d. He left issue by Jocosa, his wife, Edward his son and heir.

In 1644, John Lord Burleigh, earl of Exeter, had a manor in Wainfleet.‡

When Charles I., in 1648, issued orders for levying the tax of ship money, Wainfleet was one of the towns enumerated as liable to the imposition. "York, Hull, Beverly, Lincoln, Boston, Grimsby, Barton upon Humber, Spalding, Wainfleet and Gainsborough, were ordered to find one of 800 tons, 260 men at least, with double tackle, munition, wages and victuals."

* Mag. Rot. 1 and 5.
† Dug. Mon. Vol. 1. p. 624—641
‡ Inq. post. Mort. Vol. 2. pp. 71—93

Although we are not supplied with direct proof there can be no doubt that Wainfleet suffered, in common with every other part of the kingdom, during the civil wars that occurred during the latter part of the reign of Charles I. By the parochial accounts of Friskney, an adjoining parish, we learn that the bridge at Wainfleet was considered a pass of so great importance that a watch or guard was frequently placed upon it. Mention is also made of intrenchments being formed by the royal forces during the time they occupied this place in 1643, and of some bulwarks being thrown down here, but by which party they were erected does not appear. The constable's accounts for this parish would no doubt, have thrown much light upon the subject, but they were destroyed by a clergyman resident here, upwards of half a century since, merely because *he* could not decipher them.*

In 1807 a quantity of silver pennies of Henry II. were found by the side of a road which crossed a ploughed field at Tealby. Amongst them were some coined at Wainfleet with the mint mark of "Waltier on Wain," Waltier being the name of the officer who had the direction of the mint.

Church.

The old church at Wainfleet All Saints, was situated more than a mile from the present town. The first mention of a church in this place, is in the gift of the church at Wainfleet to the abbey of Bardney, by Philip de Kyme, about the year 1170, at what period the late church was erected does not appear. The following description of it was written towards the close of the last century.

"The church at Wainfleet is an ancient fabric, built of free stone, in the form of a cross; the walls in some places are decayed and repaired with brick. The church consists of a nave, with ailes, north and south transepts and choir. The nave rests on three pointed arches, with octagon pillars and capitals, and has a clerestory above. The tower, which stands in the centre, is built of brick, and is supported by two stone arches, lower than those in the nave. The west front is adorned with a noble window, parted by embattled mouldings. It has two angels in fur, with blank shields at the bases of the arches. On the south door of the chancel are the heads of a king and queen. In one of the north windows of the chancel is a large gothic M and in the south window opposite IHS reversed. The east end has been fitted up within the rails, with modern wainscot. In each of the water tables is the word *help* in gothic characters. The north and south aisles have each of them chapels their east ends, parted off by wooden screens, with wreathed pillars. That in the north aisle is now a vestry; in it are the steps of ascent to the tower, lighted by quartrefoils, pierced in the wall. In the south aisle is the tomb erected by William Wainfleet to the memory of Richard Patten, his father. The tower was originally built of wood, for the foundation being laid upon a stratum of sand and sea shells, the architect probably thought it incapable of bearing a heavier structure: however, about the year 1718 this wooden spire was taken down, and replaced with a brick tower, as before mentioned, of a ponderous weight; at the same time it was furnished with five heavy bells. To this undertaking, Mr. J. Shaw, whose tomb is in the south aisle, very generously contributed. But what was meant as an additional ornament, has evidently proved an irreparable damage to the edifice, the foundation giving way, and the sinking tower pressing hard against the nave of the church, has pushed the arches and columns from their perpendicular station, and made them incline

* Oldfield's account of Wainfleet, p. 38.

BOOK IV. to the west end in such a manner, as, if not prevented by timely care, must bring down the whole of that venerable building."

To preserve, if possible, this ancient structure from the demolition with which it was threatened, strong wooden supporters were placed under the principal arches; but every effort was in vain, the church went rapidly to decay, until the year 1809, when it was found to be in so ruinous a condition, as to be unsafe to use it any longer, for the celebration of divine worship. It was consequently shut up, and the chapel belonging to the school-house used until the completion of the new church.

Patten's Monument

In the foregoing description of the ancient edifice, mention has been made of a monument in the south aisle, erected by William Wainfleet, to the memory of his father, Richard Patten. When the church was taken down this splendid monument was wantonly destroyed. The parts that escaped total destruction were collected by Mr. Wilcox, and are now preserved in the school-house at Wainfleet. They consist of the effigies of Richard Patten; the angels bearing shields, and some fragments of the alabaster fret-work, which originally composed the sides of the tomb,* The following description of the monument in its former state is from Dr. Chandler's life of William Wainfleet.

"Richard Patten is recumbent in effigy on the slab of a fair altar tomb of alabaster, within a strong moveable enclosure of wooden palisadoes, designed to defend it from injury. He is represented as a tall well made person, not aged, of a comely pleasing countenance, without a beard, his eyes open and turned upwards, his hands closed as in prayer. He is bare headed; his hair regularly divided in wavy locks from the centre of the crown, and cut round, reaching only to the ears. He has a large figured ring, which seems to have had a stone or seal set in it, on the fore finger of the right hand: and a narrow plain ring on the little finger of the left. He wears a gown or robe with wide puffed sleeves and with plaits reaching from the breast to the feet; a broad hem or border at the bottom; and underneath, a vest or waiscoat, of which the sleeves are tied at the wrists with double strings. The two standing collars of these garments are round, and closed at the neck. The inner garment appears at the opening of the sleeves. A belt is fastened about the waist with a buckle the strap falling to the knee. It is studded with roses of stone, and the whole breadth near the end, decorated with a wrought ornament terminating in a single stone. From the belt hangs by the middle a rosary, the ends of which are two tassels, falling parallel; the beads are roughly cut, and near an inch diameter; also, by a double string, a purse with two small cords, to open and shut it, ending in tassels reaching almost to the bottom, which has a tassel at each corner, a whittle or knife was likewise suspended to it; the string yet remaining with a portion of the handle, and the entire sheath under his right side. His feet rest on scattered lilies and other flowers, and his shoes have pointed toes. His head lies on a pillow placed on a cushion, with two large tassels at the corners; and is supported on his left side by John, and on his right by William Wainfleet.

"John Wainfleet is represented as sitting with his feet drawn up, his right hand beneath the pillow, his left holding a large open book lying on his left knee, under which his right foot is placed. He has the clerical tonsure, and his hair is cut short and even, his features are strong and masculine, his aspect venerable, his air solemn, and his eyes lifted up

* Oldfield's account of Wainfleet, p. 41.

as in prayer. His dress is a hood; that, it is likely, of a bachelor of canon law, reaching to his loins, deeply indented or scalloped at the extremity; with a cowl behind, like the cloak of a capuchin friar. CHAP. IV.

"William Wainfleet is in a similar posture, his left foot placed under the bending of the right knee, his left hand supporting the pillow. He is represented as a bishop, and that hand has a glove upon it from which hangs some small beads. The mitre on his head is set with precious stones, and richly adorned with broad figured lace; some traces of the painting and gilding is still visible. The middle part of the staff of the crozier, with the right arm and the hand which held it, and it is probable, had likewise a glove on, is gone; but the lower end remains under the shoulder of the large statue; and the upper reposing on his own shoulder, and touching the mitre, has above it some imperfect traces of the pastoral crook. His robes are loose, flowing to his feet, and spreading on the marble behind. His countenance is amiable and benevolent, but serious and expressive of sorrow. His face resembles that of his father, but is younger; and is neither so broad nor so aged as that of his brother.

"The sides of the tomb are ornamented with compartments carved in fret work, alternately of unequal width. In two at the head are angels, slender figures, with curling hair and pentagonal caps, their wings expanded, and robes flowing to their feet; holding each on his breast an armorial shield, encircled with the garter, once painted and gilded, tied in a knot below. Traces remain of letters, probably of the usual motto. The shield on the dexter side has the bearing of William Wainfleet, *Lozengy three lilies in chief*. The other is now plain; time, it is likely, having obliterated the arms of the see of Winchester, for which, perhaps, it was intended.

"The wooden fence approaches the head of the tomb, so as not to admit of a passage within it, probably because the inscription was placed in that part, and not on a fillet round the rim; one side being close to the wall. At that end the cornice is of free stone, and loose; and, on removing it, light enters through the transparent alabaster. The middle is filled up with solid masonry, a remnant of the inscription was copied in 1629:—*novissima memorare—credo videre bona Dni. in terra viventium.*—and celebrates the pious confidence of the deceased, if I mistake not, by recording his last words:—" I believe verily to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living."—Psal. xxvii. 15.

It is to be sincerely regretted that so fine a monument should have been destroyed through the neglect of those whose duty it ought to have been to see it carefully re-erected in the new church. Had the demolition of the old edifice occurred only a quarter of a century later there is no doubt but a better taste would have dictated the preservation of this noble testimony of Wainfleet's filial affection.

In 1820 the old church was taken down and the materials made use of in the erection of a new church in the town. The foundation of the edifice was laid on the 15th of September in that year, on ground given for the purpose, by Colonel Sibthorpe, and the church was opened for divine service on the seventeenth of July, 1821. It is a plain neat edifice, built partly of the materials of the old church, but principally of substantial brick work. The length of the nave is 74 feet 6 inches, the width 45 feet; at the east end is a handsome arched recess, in which stands the communion table. The pulpit and reading desk stand on

BOOK IV. each side of the arch; adjoining the east gable is a room used as a vestry. The font, which belonged to the old church, is octagonal; In every alternate compartment around it, is a shield emblazoned with emblematic representations of our Saviour's passion, as the cross, the spear, the crown of thorns, nails, scourges, &c.

The entrance to the church is by a Gothic door at the west end, over which is a handsome window, having on each side an ornamented recess or niche. The building is altogether destitute of tower or spire, and a single bell is suspended in an open niche, over the western gable. This niche is surmounted by an ancient stone cross, which was dug up in excavating the new haven in 1821.

Much to the credit of the master and Fellows of Magdalen College, Oxford, they have caused a handsome mural tablet of white marble to be affixed to the interior of the north wall of the new church, to the memory of Richard Patten and which bears the following inscription:

Cvm. excisa. esset. vicina. omnivm. sanctorvm. ecclesia.
Dirvtvm. qve. cvm. ea. Ricardi. Patten. sepvlcrvm
In. qvo. qvidem. pvlcherrimo. monvmento.
Filivs. eivs. Gvlielmvs. wintoniae. episcopvs.
Patri. capvt. svstinens, spectabator
Hvnc. titvlvm. parenti. fvndatoris. svi
Praeses. socii. qve. collegii magdalenensis posvervnt.

A tablet on the south wall states that four hundred free sittings are set apart for the use of the poor, in consequence of a donation received from the society for the enlargement and building of churches and chapels. The total expense of the erection, independantly of the old materials, was £2600; nine hundred pounds was subscribed towards the building; thirty four pound, two shillings and fourpence was collected at the opening, and the remainder was provided for by a rate levied upon the inhabitants.

The living of All Saints is a rectory valued in the King's Books at £16. 3s. 6d. Previous to the dissolution of monastic foundations, the advowson belonged to the priory of Kyme, the fraternity of which had a pension from it of £3. 6s. 8d. The living is now in the gift of his Majesty.

School. The Free Grammar School was founded in the year 1484, by William Wainfleet, Bishop of Winchester. This munificent prelate, it appears, possessed certain lands and tenements at Wainfleet, which had been devised to him by William Aulekar, and Richard Bennington. Being desirous of extending grammar learning in the northern provinces, he resolved to found and endow a school for that purpose in the place of his nativity. In pursuance of this plan he empowered master John Gygur, Warden of Merton College, Oxford, and the college of Tattershall in this county, to procure a site, and to contract with workmen for the building; the indenture for the carpentry bears date April 25th 1484. To the same person he conveyed the above mentioned property, to be made over by him to the president and scholars of Magdalen college, Oxford, for the endowment.

The school house is situated on the south east of the town. It is a handsome brick edifice. The bricks appear to be made of better materials than those usually made in this

neighbourhood, and tradition states them to have been manufactured in the Isle of Ely, and conveyed hither by water; many of them are formed in curious figures for ornamental parts, as cornices, or mouldings in the door cases, windows, &c. The length is seventy six feet, the breadth twenty six feet without. The interior measures seventy feet by twenty. At the west end are two towers, which project four feet and a half each way. The staircase in the north tower deserves attention; it is built and arched with brick cemented with excellent mortar; winding about and supported by a round column of the same materials, made or cut semicircular for that purpose. In the wall opposite there runs a spiral moulding which serves for a hand rail. In the southern tower is a bell with an inscription round the crown, in old capital letters, AVE. MARIA. GRA. SIA. PLENA. The building consists of two stories, and appears to have been designed originally for only two rooms. The upper apartment is now used for the school. It has six windows on each side, and two large ones in the ends. The side windows were originally filled with lilies (part of the armorial bearings of the Wainfleet family) painted on single lozenge panes; several of them are yet remaining. The whole of the windows have been strongly ironed, and those below have had very massive shutters on the inside, as is evident from the iron hooks left in the walls. CHAP. IV

The chapel, though not intended for a place of general public worship, was used instead of the church, every alternate Sunday, during the winter months. This practice, after being discontinued many years, was resumed in 1785, and continued until 1809, when the old church was shut up, and divine service performed here every Sunday until the new church was opened.

The endowment of the school consists of a salary of seventeen marks, (£11. 6s. 8d.) per annum, from Magdalen College; the use of the school house, with the gardens, orchard, and green yard, being altogether a little short of an acre, and about eighteen acres of land (in nine parcels) widely dispersed in distant parts of two parishes. The rental in 1785 was £7. 5s. 0d.; in 1790 £8. 6s. 0d. The portion which is in Wainfleet All Saints, was valued in 1808 at £14. 1s. 8½d.; the part which is in Wainfleet St. Mary's, is worth about thirty shillings a year. In 1579 Robert Woolbie added, by his will forty shillings per annum for ever to the stipend. The master also receives three shillings and eightpence yearly from the churchwardens and overseer of Wainfleet All Saints. The money is paid on Plough Monday, O. S. out of rents collected to be distributed amongst the poor.

The mastership appears to have been held for a long time by the rectors of All Saints, who are said to have wholly neglected the school, holding the office merely for the sake of the emoluments attached to it. According to report an unqualified person was frequently put into the school house, and books, procured from another school in the place, were exhibited to the visitors from Magdalen College, as belonging to the scholars connected with the establishment. The inhabitants had long been dissatisfied with these proceedings, and, in 1753 they advertised for a master for "Waynfleet School." This advertisment occasioned the members of Magdalen College to scrutinize more closely into the manner of conducting the school, and the result was the appointment of the Rev. Richard Pickburn in the room of the rector, who was also severely reprimanded for "abusing the school".*

* Oldfield's account of Wainfleet, p. 51.

BOOK IV.
Haven.

Dr. Stukely says, "the haven was near St. Thomas's church; it is still very deep thereabouts, and appears to have been broad, being a pretty good river; whilst the waters of the east Fen ran through it, and kept it open, it was thirty foot wide a mile above the churches, as appears by the old cloughs there; for they had wisely contrived by that means to keep out the salt water, and heighten the fresh, which, no doubt would have preserved the haven to this day, if they had not foolishly suffered the east Fen water to be carried to Boston. It is apparent the natural course of water here is eastward; the east Fen is lower than the west Fen. At Nordike bridge anciently were four arches; the edge of the pieces which cut the water was westward, which shows that the water originally ran eastward, and the whole level was drained that way, though now most currents run to Boston."*

Hollingshed writing of the rivers and waterfalls in Lincolnshire, describes the course of the streams in this neighbourhood as follows:—"As for Ingoldmills Creeke, I pass it over, and come streight to another water, descending from Burgh to Skegness. From hence I go to the issue of a faire brooke (which as I heare) doth rise at Tetford, and thence goeth by Somersby, Bagenderby, Aswardby, Sawsthorpe, Partnie, Ashbie, the Stepings, Thorpe, Croft, and soe into the sea. As for Waynflete water, it cometh from the east sea, and goeth between St. Maries and Allhallows, by Waynflete towne, and treading the path of its predecessors, emptieth its channel to the maintenance of the sea.†

It is not at present known when Wainfleet haven began to be defective, but there is every reason to suppose that it was at the period when the fens were allowed to remain undrained and neglected; the banks then naturally decayed, and the waters spread themselves over the level country, instead of passing through, and cleansing the haven; the silt then brought in by the tide, accumulated daily, and eventually choaked up the outfall.

Chapman in his "Facts and Remarks," observes, "among the many reasons assigned for the decay of the outfalls, it has been supposed, that, after the country was abandoned by the Romans, the banks and small drains were neglected, during the tumultuary times which succeeded; that the land floods, overflowing the level, stagnated or ran off in small streams, whereby the regular outfalls being deprived of a considerable portion of the fresh, the tides so far got this ascendancy as to lodge at and near the mouths of the rivers, vast quantities of sand, which all the contrivances of subsequent ages have not been able to remove."‡

Nothing further is recorded of the state of the haven till the year 1756, when Mr. Grundy, an eminent engineer, was employed to survey the course of the river and its outfalls. This survey he performed again in 1774, and the report made by him was, on both occasions published. From the first of these it appears that the state of the haven was then very bad; but its condition at his second visit was much worse; several of the narrowest parts being not more than sixteen feet wide, and two feet ten inches deep. It was then imagined that seven parts out of eight of the Steeping river waters went back into the fens, instead of passing through the haven, and the effect was that the lowlands of Firsby, Steeping, Thorpe,

* Stukeley's Itin. Curios. vol. i. pp. 28-9.

† Hollingshed, vol. i. p. 169.

‡ Chapman's Facts and Remarks, p. p. 4-5.

and Croft, were subject to dreadful inundations in wet seasons. To remedy these defects Mr. Grundy proposed that a sluice should be built at Gibralter house, or as near to the channel of the sea as might be practicable; that the haven should be made broader and deeper, and its course more direct. He also proposed that the East Holland towns should have their drainage by Wainfleet haven: the expence of these works was estimated at £37,552. 9s. 6d. What it was that prevented the execution of this plan does not appear.

CHAP. IV.

Several attempts have been made to restore this ancient haven, particularly at the period when the enclosure of the fens was undertaken. In the opinion of several engineers Wainfleet Haven would have been a better outfall than Hobhole, for the east fen waters. On this as on other occasions, however, superior influence prevailed, and Wainfleet beheld not only those waters diverted into another channel, but also the waters descending from Bratoft, and Gunby, which are now carried by a sunken tunnel under the haven to one of the branches of the Hobhole drainage.* Speaking of this place, Campbell, in his Political Survey says,—"It still retains thus much of its former grandeur, that it is the neatest and most compact town thereabouts." This character Wainfleet continues to maintain. Since the commencement of the present century, its appearance has considerably improved; many handsome edifices have been erected, and several new buildings are now in progress. In front of these is a tolerably spacious Market place, having on the north side an ancient stone cross. The shaft of the pillar, which is octagonal, is elevated on four steps, and surmounted by a globe. The period of its erection is unknown.

Chapels.

The Quakers have a neat meeting house, and the Wesleyan methodists erected one in 1804, which was considerably enlarged in 1813. It was, however, still found much too small, and was consequently taken down and rebuilt on a larger scale in 1822. Adjoining the chapel is a room, erected in 1823, for the sunday school, which had for some years been conducted in the chapel, but for which a separate building was judged proper. A sunday school is also attached to the church. The Wesleyan Methodists also erected a small chapel in 1820 at a part called the Bank, near the old church-yard.

William Wainfleet.

William Patten, called from being a native of this place, William of Wainfleet, was the eldest son of Richard Patten, the descendant of an ancient family in this county. After receiving the rudiments of his education in Lincolnshire, he was removed to Wykeham's school at Winchester. To what particular college he belonged at Oxford is a disputed point: Leland fixes him at New College, and Hollingshed ascribes him to Merton.

In 1429 the warden of Winchester School, together with the Fellows of the college, appointed Wainfleet to fill the useful and honourable, if not lucrative situation of Master, on the office being vacated by Thomas Alwin. In the following year 1430, a William Wainfleet, as appears from the Episcopal Register of Lincoln, was presented by the convent of Bardney, to the vicarage of Skendleby. It should, however, be remarked that the identity of this William, and our Bishop, is, at least problematical; and more especially so, as the name occurs in other registers. Indeed both Wainfleet and Patten, were surnames far from being uncommon.

William of Wykeham, bishop of Winchester dying, the vacancy in the see, was filled up

* Oldfield's Acc. Wainfleet p. 67.

by the translation from that of Lincoln, of Henry Beaufort, uncle and sometime preceptor to Henry VI. From Beaufort, Wainfleet received the only ecclesiastical preferment he ever enjoyed, or that has hitherto been discovered with certainty, excepting the vicarage of Skendleby, if indeed he were vicar there, and his bishopric.

Henry VI. desirous of founding a school at Eton, examined in person, the plan of Wykeham's foundation at Winchester. His first visit to the college, was on the 30th July 1440. Wainfleet had executed his task there so ably, that the king resolved to transplant him to Eton. Wainfleet had presided in the school about eleven years, when he was thus suddenly distinguished by his sovereign, and became an object of royal attention and favour. When Wainfleet had been master about three years, the school being formed, he was promoted by the king to be provost of Eton. The day fixed for his admission, and the introduction of the statutes, was the festival of St. Thomas, December 21st, 1443.

Cardinal Beaufort died at his episcopal palace at Winchester, in April, 1447, at a great age and immensely rich. Henry VI. is said to have been very circumspect in ecclesiastical matters, and particularly cautious not to bestow preferment on persons undeserving, or, in a manner, unworthy of his own dignity. Possessed of a high opinion of the piety and abilities of the man whom he had selected to be the provost of his newly founded school, he determined to advance him to the episcopal office. It was perhaps necessary to use uncommon expedition to secure this promotion to Wainfleet, and Henry, without waiting the customary forms, on the day Beaufort died, sent leave to the church of Winchester to proceed to an election, and strongly recommended his "right trustie and wel beloved clarke and councellour, Master William Waynfleet, a provost of Eton", to be his successor. In pursuance of this recommendation on the 15th of April, William Wainfleet was chosen to be their bishop and pastor, and in due time the election was confirmed both by the king and the pope.

Wainfleet appears early to have conceived a warm regard for the University, at which he was educated, and to have been connected with it by constant friendly intercourse. Pursuing his benevolent designs, in 1418, the year after his advancement to the mitre, our bishop obtained the royal grant, dated the 6th of May, empowering him to found a Hall, to be called after the blessed St. Mary Magdalen, for the study of divinity and philosophy, at Oxford; to consist of a president, and fifty poor scholars, graduates; the number to be augmented or diminished in proportion to their revenues; and to confer on them a right to use a common seal. Steps were now taken for the purchase of proper premises; which being found, the bishop, on the 1st of August, constituted Simon Godmanston, his attorney, to take seizin in his name. By his charter of foundation, dated the 18th, John Hornby, Bachelor of Divinity, a man of eminence, was appointed president, and thirteen Masters of Art, with seven Bachelors, were nominated to commence the new society.

In 1451, Wainfleet issued his mandate for supplication to be made in his diocese, with litanies on certain days for the peace of the church, the king, and the whole realm of England, exhorting persons of every rank, to study to please God effectually, in order to avert the impending calamities. In 1456 the lord Chancellor Bourchier delivered up the seals, which the king having received, were by him delivered to Wainfleet, whom he appointed his successor. This distinguished office, however, he did not long hold, for living in unhappy times, and being rather a learned and studious prelate than a politician, he delivered up, on

the 7th of July 1460, the great seal to the king, who in the battle that ensued on the 10th of the same month, was taken prisoner, and the house of York was once more predominant.

Under Edward IV. Wainfleet appears to have enjoyed as much tranquillity as, in his circumstances he could expect. Edward, with the authority of parliament granted him a most ample pardon, declaring and accepting him as a true liege man, and receiving him into especial favour. In October 1470, Henry VI. was again crowned, and Edward, in a bill of attainder, declared an usurper and traitor. In 1471 Edward was once more placed on the throne; and Henry, as if destined, not only to know the vicissitudes of life, but to experience with what rapidity they may occur, was again a prisoner. Wainfleet could not have beheld these strange proceedings unmoved, but it does not appear that he was engaged in them. After the final restoration of Edward we find him attending parliament, and well received by the king. This distinction, too, was enjoyed without his losing the regard of the Lancastrian party; and the respect they shewed him, proves that they did not consider it as gained by temporizing and servility. He appears to have attended conscientiously to the duties of his functions; and steadily to have aimed at the advancement of learning and good order.

In April, 1482, Edward died, and was almost immediately succeeded by his brother Richard, not without reason suspected of the commission of great crimes, to facilitate his own advancement. He had shut up his nephew, the young king, and his brother in the Tower, but was as yet guiltless of their murder, when he resolved to visit Magdalen College in his way to Gloucester. Wainfleet, whatever were his own feelings, repaired to Oxford to provide for his reception, and Richard, with his retinue, passed two days there. Disputations were held in the college, as well as more public ones in the university, all of which Richard attended, and then proceeded to Woodstock. He ratified, not long after, their academical privileges and immunities, as he had promised; and, with a view to the farther promotion of learning, granted free permission to foreigners, to import printed books into England for sale. He appears to have been pleased with his reception at Oxford, and his generosity and condescension certainly gained him the good will of the society at Magdalen, as the entries in the register ends with "*Vivat Rex in eternum.*"

The mild virtues, or perhaps the popularity of Wainfleet, had been respected by Richard, but he must have derived great satisfaction from the re-accession of the house of Lancaster. after the battle of Bosworth field. The new king (Henry VII.) not unapprized of his merit, distinguished him early as a friend of his family. In the first parliament held by Henry, an act of resumption was passed, with provision, however, that it "*should not be prejudicial to William Bishop of Wynchester, nor to the President and Scholars of Seynt Mary Magdalen, in the University of Oxford;* to whom it confirmed the letters patent which had been issued in their favour by Henry and Edward.

On the 27th of April, 1486, Wainfleet received something of a divine impression or admonition, not unlike that of Hezekiah; "Set thine house in order, for thou shalt die, and not live." He now fell suddenly into a grievous disease, "which," in the words of Budden, "creeping and stealing through his limbs and marrow, got into the citadel of his heart, and so entirely overcame him, as to bring on a speedy dissolution." He died on the 11th of August 1486. His disorder, of which the account is obscure, seems to have begun in the

BOOK IV. extremities. Its inroad was gradual, and it seized on his vitals by insensible degrees, as we are told; for he was able, as is proved by the register, to give institution to a living, on the same day. The body was removed to Winchester with great funeral pomp; and, after the usual solemnities, deposited in the tomb within the chapel of St. Mary Magdalen, according to the directions of his will.

The character of William Wainfleet may be gathered from the foregoing brief sketch: Humanity, benevolence, and integrity, were the prominent features of it. His devotion was fervent without hypocrisy; his bounty, only limited by the extent of his income. As a bishop, he was a kind father, revered by his children, the inferior clergy. As a founder, liberal to munificence. Amiable in his whole deportment, he was beloved as well as respected. Nor is it too much to say of him, that, as a statesman, elevated to one of the highest offices of the realm, in a time of much trouble and difficulty, he was prudent, faithful, and innocent. Of Henry VI., he appears as much the friend as the minister; and yet he was able to conciliate the favour of successive sovereigns of opposite principles and characters.

Wainfleet St. Mary.

WAINFLEET ST. MARY'S is situated to the southward of Wainfleet All Saints. The earliest notice of it as a distinct parish, is in the gift of the church to the monastery of Stixwold in 1378. The Doomsday book, the Testa de Nevill, and the Escheat and Charter Rolls, make no distinction in their account of the three Wainfleets.

Church.

The church is an ancient structure, consisting of a tower, nave, north and south aisles, and chancel. "The principal entrance is by a neat porch on the south side. The interior of the church presents a singular appearance, the nave being supported on the south side by four pointed arches, and on the north side by five. The pillars from which the arches spring, are very thick in proportion to their height; they are all circular, with the exception of one at the west end of the north side which is clustered. The arch opening into the tower, is a very fine one. There is as much variety in the windows as in the number of arches. The chancel windows have circular tops; the windows in the north aisle are pointed; those in the south aisle are flat at the top. The screen work by which a chapel was taken off from the east end of each aisle, was taken down about four years ago."*

In the chancel is a handsome altar-piece of the Doric order, composed of dark wainscot. On the north side of the chancel is a handsome marble monument, surmounted with a shield of arms. The following inscription informs us that the altar-piece was the gift of Edward Barkham, Esq., who possessed considerable estates in this parish;

Near this place lyes the remains of Edward Barkham, Esq., who in his lifetime at his own expence, erected the stately Altar Piece in this church, furnished the Communion Table with a very rich velvet carpet, a cushion of the same, and a beautiful Common Prayer Book, likewise with two large Flaggons, a Chalice with a cover, together with a Patine, all of Silver Plate. But above all, (and what may very justly preserve his name to latest posterity,) he gave and devised by will to the curate of Wainfleet, St Maries, and his successors for ever, the sum of £XXXV. per annum, over and above the former salary, with this clause, viz., Provided the said Curate and his successors do and shall read Prayers and Preach once every Sunday in the year for ever. So extraordinary an instance of securing a veneration for the most awful parts of our religion, and so rare and uncommon zeal for promoting God's worship every Lord's day, (divine service being performed aforetime only every other Sunday,) forget not reader to proclaim to the world that men in power and authority induced hereby to copy after so great an original, may strive to excel each other in doing likewise. He departed this Life March 6th. 1732, Aged 59 Years.

* Oldfield's Candleshoe, published in 1829.—p. 74.

The font is octagonal, and closely resembles that in the church of Wainfleet All Saints, being sculptured with emblematic representations of the sufferings of our Saviour. Previous to the reformation the patronage of St. Mary's belonged to the priory of Stixwold, and was valued among their possessions at the dissolution, at £17. 0. 0. per annum. In the king's books it is valued at £8. 13s. 4d. The patronage of the living is now in the governor of Bethleham Hospital, London. In 1821 the population of this parish amounted to 514 persons.

Wainfleet St. Thomas.

Wainfleet St. Thomas, better known by the name of Northolme, is situated to the north of Wainfleet All Saints. The chapel belonged, previous to the reformation, to the Priory of Kyme, which received forty shillings a year out of the tithes. This sum was appropriated to the support of one of the canons who celebrated divine worship here. The same amount was paid to a priest after the dissolution of the priory. At what period the chapel was demolished does not appear, but it was standing in the time of the Protectorate, when the general Baptists obtained a grant of it, but no mention is made of it afterwards. No remains now exist to point out its situation or extent; a cottage adjoining the burial ground was probably erected out of its materials. The living was a curacy not in charge. It is now united as a hamlet to Wainfleet All Saints. In 1821, it contained 33 houses, and 155 inhabitants. Wainfleet St. Thomas contains only 18 acres of land, which belongs to Lord Bayning.

Burgh.

Burgh is a small market town, situated on a knoll, or rising ground, in the marsh division of the wapentake, from which circumstance it is frequently termed "Burgh in the Marsh." It is at the distance of about forty miles eastward from Lincoln, eight from Spilsby, and four from Wainfleet. The name of this place affords undoubted evidence of its Roman origin, and, according to Dr. Stukely, here was once "a Roman castrum to guard the sea coast, probably against the Saxon rovers. It is a piece of very high ground, partly natural, partly raised by Roman labour, overlooking the wide extended marshes, perhaps in those times covered with salt water, at least in spring tides. There are two artificial tumuli, one very high, called Cockhill. In St. Mary's churchyard, now demolished, Roman coins have been found."*

Roman Castrum.

Church.

This town formerly possessed two churches, St. Mary's and St. Peter's, but, the first named edifice has been long since demolished. The burying ground belonging to it was afterwards used by the general Baptists as a place of sepulture, but it has since been converted into a garden. St. Peter's church is built on the plan adopted in most of the marsh ecclesiastical edifices, consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, chancel, and a fine embattled tower at the west end; the battlements not pierced, but ornamented with quatrefoils, a turret at each corner, and three others on each side. The angles of the tower are supported by double buttresses. The nave is surrounded by an embattled parapet, and supported by five light pointed arches, over which is a range of handsome clerestory windows.

The beauty of the church has been much impaired by the removal of the tracery work from the windows of both aisles, to give more light. Two chapels, one at the east end of each aisle, are separated from the nave by gothic fret-work. The pulpit is made of dark oak, and is very richly carved; it is inscribed "1623, John Houlden." The font and pedestal are

*Stukeley's Itin. Curios. p. 27.

BOOK IV. octangular; in each compartment round the bowl is a blank shield, the cover is carved and surmounted by a spire raised on eight duplicated pillars; on the summit of the spire is an eagle gilt, with extended wings, and holding in its mouth a baton and bottle.

On a plate of brass affixed to a slab in the north aisle, is the following quaint inscription:

Quis jacet hic? Leonardus Palmerus Generosus.
Quæ coniux dilecta fuit? Catherina, Quis
Hæres? Christopher, (Cui nupta Aña est) Quis fili alter?
Robertus, Gnatæ quot erat? tres. Elizabetha,
Ac Maria. Ac Helena. An superant? superant. Ubi mens
Est defuncti rogitas? Dubio procul astra petivit.
Obiit Die Martii Octavo, Anno Dño. 1610. Etats suæ 70. *

In this church was a chantry, founded by John Houlden, who, by his will, bearing date 14th March 1503, endowed the same with fifty-one acres of land, in Burgh, Bratoft, Irby, Winthorpe, and Skegness. The rents of these lands are now applied to the poor, and to the support of two charity schools. Burgh church was given in 1256 to the priory of Bolington, The living is a discharged vicarage, formerly valued in the king's books at £13. 6s. 8d. and returned as being of the clear value of £26. 2s. 5d. per annum; it is united to Winthorpe. The salary of both parishes was only £20. per annum, until the time of Bishop Green, who augmented it to £40. The bishop of Lincoln is patron, and Lord Monson lessee of the tythes.

Manor. About a century ago a captain Hardwick was lord of the manor, he was steward to the Duke of Ancaster, and amassed a considerable property in the service of his grace. Having no children, he made the duke his heir, whose descendant lord Gwydir, is now possessed of the manorial rights.+

Schools In the year 1726, Mrs. Jane Palmer vested twenty-seven acres of land in the vicar of Burgh, the vicar of Croft, and the rector of Wainfleet All Saints, for the endowment of a free school. In 1788 the estate was valued at twenty pounds a year, but the net produce at the present time is forty pound per ann. Of this sum eight pounds a year are applied to the support of two female schools, and the residue to the support of the grammar school.

The parishioners have a tradition, that an acre of land in Orby field, called bell-string acre, was given by the captain of a vessel to purchase a silken bell rope, for the tenor bell at

* Who lies here? Leonard Palmer Gentleman.
Who was his dear wife? Catherine.
Who his heir? Christopher, (to whom Anne was married.)
Who his other son? Robert.
How many daughters had he? Three.
Elizabeth, Mary, and Helen.
Do they survive? They do.
Do you inquire where the soul of the deceased is?
Doubtless he has sought the stars.
He died on the eighth day of March, A. D. 1610, In the 70 Year of his age.

+ Oldfield's Candleshoe. p. 102.

Burgh; he having been warned of his danger, and preserved from shipwreck by hearing the sound of that bell, in a dark night.

Market. In the year 1400 John de Weston obtained a charter for a market at Burgh. It still retains the name of a market town, but the market is so much reduced as to be merely a nominal one. Two annual fairs are held here, one on the thirteenth of May, and the other on the second of October. They are both well attended and considerable business is transacted; in the centre of the market place, stands the market house, erected about fifty years since, but it is a mean edifice, and rather a disfigurement than an ornament from the town.

Chapels. In 1816 a neat Wesleyan Chapel was erected in this place. The baptists have also a chapel here, which belonged originally to the general Baptists; it is now, however, occupied by the Particular Baptists.

In 1821 Burgh contained 189 houses, and 903 inhabitants.

Cock Hill. From the summit of Cock Hill, already referred to there is a very extensive prospect of the country around. The View on the west, over the wolds, reaches to West Keal. The country on this side being well wooded, and abounding with hills and dales, presents a most delightful prospect. The views of the other sides of the hill being over the flat marshes, extend to a great distance. On the south may be seen the churches of Croft, Wainfleet All Saints and St. Mary's, Thorpe, Friskney, and in the back ground those of Boston and Sibsey. On the West, Bratoft, Irby, Halton, Spilsby and Gunby, with the Hall of the latter place. On the north the churches of Welton, Arby, Huttoft, Hogsthorpe, Mumby, Anderby, and Cumberworth, with the Hall at Boothby, are distinctly seen, and the on east, on which side the prospect is bounded by the German Ocean and the Norfolk coast; those of Addlethorpe ,Ingoldmells, Winthorpe and Skegness.

Friskney. Friskney is situated about four miles south-westward from Wainfleet on the borders of the district denominated East Holland. It is the most extensive village in the wapentake of Candleshoe, of which it forms the southern boundary against the hundred of Skirbeck.

Etymology. The name is variously written in ancient documents: Frischeni, Freskena, Friscan, and Friskeney. It is probably derived from *Frith*, an estuary or bay, and *Ness*, a promontary or rising ground, such being the situation of the place in reference to the surrounding country.*

The only mention of this parish in the Domesday Book is as follows: "Land of Sortebrande and other Thanes. Berewic in Frischeni Sortebrande has two ox-gangs of land to be taxed. Land to two oxen. Chetelburn has there three villanes who do not plough, and four acres of meadow."

Church. The church of this parish is dedicated to All Saints, and is a spacious gothic edifice, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel and a square tower at the west end. The principal entrance is by the south door, which has a large gothic porch. The nave is supported by five pointed arches on each side, and is separated from the chancel by a wooden screen of gothic fret work, over which formerly stood the rood loft, which was accessible by a flight of stone steps, adjoining the south aisle. On the south wall of the chancel are three stone

* Oldfield's Candleshoe. p. 166.

BOOK IV. stalls of rich workmanship, used by the officiating priest at high mass, whilst the *Gloria in excelsis* was chanted by the choristers.

The east window of the chancel has been a very magnificent one, but the beauty of it was destroyed in 1570, when the tracery work was removed, and the upper part of the arch filled up with plaster, near the top of which is this inscription recording the initials of the barbarous spoilers:

1570
R B. MASONE.
F R | T M | W M | R B | W M. |
FARMORS OF
THE PAR
SONASE

In the north wall of the choir is a door way, walled up, which opened into a building, probably the sacristy, where the vestments of the priests were kept. The remains of an arch are still visible, but at what period it was demolished cannot now be ascertained.

The pulpit is a dark coloured oak, and is very elabourately carved. From a date beneath the canopy, it appears to have been made in 1659. The font is octangular, having a rose in each compartment.

The pavement contains several stones with inscriptions round their verges, one only of which is decypherable; it is a memorial of John de Lindewoode, a priest, who died in 1374. At the eastern end of each aisle is a chapel, enclosed by wooden screen work.

The tower, which is surmounted by an embattled parapet, contains five bells, which bear the following inscriptions:

1. Melodium Ordior, Henricus Penn, Fe. 1719.
2. Magistro et Discipulis, 1719.
3. Laborem, Signo et Requiem, 1719.
4. Fideles, Voco ad Domum Dei, Adlard Cuthbert, Churchwarden, 1719.
5. Vitam, Metior, Mortem, Ploro, 1719.*

Near the south gate of the church yard is an ancient stone, with a hole in the centre, in which was formerly fixed a stone pillar either of the support of a sun dial, or of the rood cross. On the four corners of this stone, are the mutilated figures of a man, a lion, an ox, and an eagle.

* The following translation is given by Oldfield.
1. I begin the melody, Henry Penn, Fecit, 1719.
2. And the disciple obeys the Master, 1719.
3. I give the sign of labour and rest. 1719.
4. I call the faithful to the house of God.
Adlard Cuthbert, Churchwarden. 1719.
5. I measure life, and deplore its termination 1719.
The word "Servit," is supplied in the inscription on the second bell.

The living of Friskney is a vicarage valued in the king's books at £15. 6s. 8d. The patronage of this, and several other benefices was granted by Queen Mary, to Thomas Watron, Bishop of Lincoln, as a compensation for the estates which his predecessor Bishop Holbeach had alienated from the see. This grant was, however, resumed by Queen Elizabeth, and at present the patronage is in the Rev. Edward Booth.

School-house

In the year 1615 a neat substantial building was erected as a school house, for the gratuitous education of poor children. The ground was purchased for the purpose by the Rev. Edward Booth, who also subscribed a considerable portion of the money required for the progress of the building, besides providing a house for the residence of the master. The school is conducted on the National system, and the number of children at present educated are forty boys and thirty-five girls. The master's salary is £50. per annum, besides one chaldron of coals allowed by the parish for his use.

Chapel.

A neat chapel belonging to the Wesleyans was erected here in 1804; it is forty seven feet long by twenty feet wide, and is capable of containing two hundred and fifty persons.

Antiquities.

The ancient residence of the Friskney family, was, according to the antiquary, Leland, about a quarter of a mile north east of the church. The walls of the building were standing about an hundred and thirty years since. In digging up the foundations, about five and thirty years ago, several joints of a Roman aquaduct were discovered a few feet below the surface; other articles of antiquity were found at the same time, which were presented to Sir Joseph Banks. In 1813, an ancient British celt was discovered by a labourer while digging a ditch in the fen, of a deep gold colour, and so nearly, indeed, did it resemble that precious metal, that the finder was a long while before he was induced to part with it for less than the price of standard gold.

At the distance of about half a mile south west of the church are some lands denominated Abbey Hills, supposed to be so called from having formed part of the possessions of Bardney Abbey. A spacious building, surrounded by a moat, has at one time undoubtedly stood upon them. The remains of the moat are still distinctly visible. A paved causeway has been discovered a little below the surface of the earth, in a direct line from the site of the building to the church. In 1814, some workmen discovered, about five feet under ground, a small room of a circular form, which was entered by a descent of five stone steps. On the floor were discovered several marine shells, and a steel instrument resembling a cleaver, having a ring at the end.

Constable's Accounts.

The accounts of disbursements by the officers of this parish, have been preserved from a very early period; and among them are sundry items of expences imposed upon the parish during the civil wars, from the year 1642, to 1646. These documents show that a certain number of soldiers were provided by the parish, whom they had to pay, arm, and clothe. The following extracts are curious.

1642. Humphrey Mell, and Richard Baldwin, Constables.

	s.	d.
Given to the Watchmen the first night	ij	vj
Expended when wee went to Lincoln, for two pair of boutes	xiiij	vj

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	s.	d.
Given to the two men	xx	
Other expences the same time	lxxv	ix
Paid for six pound & a hā of powder	viij	8
Paid for a pound of powder when they watched at Solom Bridge		xvj
Paid for 4 pair of Boutes at Lincoln	xxiiij	
To the two trayned men	xvj	
Their charges going to Lincoln	xx	

1643—4. Henry Bushey, Constable.

	s.	d.
Exp. with the constables of Wainfleet, when I went to see what Coronall Crumwells letter concerned	j	
For powder and shott which was taken at Wainfleet when the townsmen did rise and went thither, June ye 3	iiij	
To the treasurer for the weekly pay of two souldiers	ix	iiij
To Mr. Massinberds Cornett, towards his colours	j	
To Tho. Bushey for ale which was spent upon the souldiers which belonged to my Lord Fairfax	vij	vj
To Coronall Carnabys quarter master for easing of the tax imposed upon the towne for beans, sheep, hens, and bread	v	
Four bushels and one peck of beans which was sent to Wrangle to Captaine Bright and Captaine Askwith	xvj	vj
Certaine beans and oats were sent to the King's forces at Wainfleet as follows:—		
1 Strike of oats and seven strikes of beans	xv	iij
One fat wether and 4 pullets	xij	
Lost by one fat whether which they had not after it was bought for them	ij	vj
One firkin of butter sent to the Earl of Manchesters forces at Horncastle	xv	
To Francis Greene for filling the two ditches which the king's forces had commanded to be made	ij	
For two barrells of Lyn beary, at xijs. the barrell, and for the barrells vjs.	xxx	
For 24 dozen of bread	xxiiij	
For two firkins of butter	xxx	
Three stone of cheese sente to Lincoln the same time	iiij	vj
Ex. one night at Tho. Busheys by Sir Tho. Fairfax's men when they were forced to fly from Horncastle	v	
Ex. at Tho. Busheys by the king's forces during there abode at Wainfleet	v	viij
Taken away from me by the Cavaliers when they first came to Wainfleet	x	
Certaine provisions which was sent to Bullingbrook Castle upon Captaine Kingerby's warrant Nov. 20th, as follows:		
To Mr. Wilson for 4 sheep	xxx	

	£.	s.	d.
For a side of beefe which was bought at Spilsbie		xx	
Paid to Mr. Murton for a horse that was bought of him for the towns people which Captaine Sawman had Dec. 9th	iij	x	vj
Spent when I was commanded to be at Bullingbroke with bedding for the cassel	0	2	0
Then delivered one mattriss & a bolster cost	0	10	0
One pare of Sheetes cost	0	8	0
One Coverlitt cost	0	7	0
Tow Blanketts cost	0	12	0
One Pillowbeare cost	0	1	6
For my horse which Cap. Salmon had being valled to	5	0	0
Paid to Christ, Ward, and Atkinson being forced to hire them to goe allong with Gelson to Spilsbie there to deliver him for a soulyer by the command of warrant frome Corronal King and and Glover also*	0	2	0
Glover being fled into Wainfleet when I then took him with the assistance of the Constable, and hired John Payne to carry him to Spilspie and gave him	0	2	0
Allowed to Rich. Thorpe, Geo. Huggins, Wm. Smith, Edw. Sleight, Rich. Gooderson and Wm. Wells for being upon the watch a day and night by order of warrant at Wainfleet	0	6	0
Sent unto my Lord Aparvams quarters the 28th of March being at Wainfleet tow quarters of ottes	0	16	0
And one wether and one vealle cost	0	18	0
Paid to Mr. Will. Hill by command of warrant from Corronal Kinge for proisvions for Bolingbroke Castell the 6th of April	1	6	8
Paid Robt. Thompson for his mare going to Horncastle with provision for the Lord Manchester's army	0	2	0
Paid to Wm. Forman for his mare being charged to goe with the carriages to Newarke being out 9 dayes	0	9	0
Spent with the neighbours when the Bulwarks were thrown down at Wainfleet	0	2	0
Spent in going to Grettwell to make a returne of the warrant touchinge plunderers horses how many wee have	0	3	6

1644. Thomas Porter, Constable.

	£.	s.	d.
Oct. 14. Imp. Exp. at Bullingbroke when we went to fetch home our bedding	0	2	0

* By this, and the succeeding item it will be perceived that some of these men were by no means volunteers on the occasion.

	£	s.	d.
Itm. Ex. when we went to Bullingbroke to carry oates charged on us by warrant	0	3	0
Itm. paid in money instead of a horse	7	0	0
1645. John Bollon & Stephen Holland, Constables.			
July 15. Itm. paid when wee went to Bullinbrooke to Governor Bryan to know what direction he would give to have our provision money returned	0	1	2
Aug. 16. Itm. journey to Horncastle with the account of the disbursements of divers inhabitants, but by reason of alarum the night before none of the Gent. came	0	2	6
1646. Wm. Thompson & Edw. Wilbie, Constables.			
Aprill. Paid to Robert Holland when he went to the Assizes to free the towne from the Indictment	1	10	0

These extracts will be sufficient to show the extortions the people were at that time compelled to submit to. The total amount charged to the parish for these extraordinary supplies, was £127. 0s. 5d. independent of the provisions furnished by the inhabitants themselves.

Embanking. On the 27th of May 1809, an Act of Parliament for the embanking, inclosing and draining of lands in the parish of Friskney, received the royal assent. Previous to that period the lower parts were generally flooded during at least six months in the year, but now, so effectual has the system of drainage proved that scarcely any land is flooded even in the wettest seasons.

Decoys. The advantage however that has thus been gained on one hand has been counterbalanced on the other by the destruction of the Decoys for which this place was once so celebrated. Indeed so great has been the diminution of profits that where, previous to the inclosure. Friskney used to send upwards of thirty thousand head of ducks, widgeon and teal to the metropolis, scarcely five thousand now reward the labour and expence of the most profitable season.

Cranberries. Mention is made by Mr. Oldfield of another article of profit once abounding in this neighbourhood; he says, "a principal part of that portion of the fens which appertain to this parish was denominated, the Mossberry or Cranbery Fen, from the quantity of Cranberries which grew upon it, in its wild and uncultivated state; the soil, a deep peat moss, being admirably calculated for their growth. It was not, however, until the commencement of the last century, that their value, as a luxurious article of food was at all known in this parish when they were brought into use, by a native of Westmoreland, in which county and Cumberland great numbers are annually gathered. After that period and until the drainage of the fens, the quantity gathered yearly in this place was very great. In some years when the season was favourable, as many as four thousand pecks, have been collected but the average quantity was about two thousand. The general price paid to those who

picked them was five shillings per peck; those who purchased them, disposed of them principally in Cambridgeshire, Lancashire, and Yorkshire, for the making the well known 'Cranberry Tarts.' Since the drainage and inclosure, few have been gathered and those few have sold from thirty to fifty shillings per peck."* CHAP. IV.

According to the population returns of 1821 this parish contained 193 houses and 1268 inhabitants.

Orby. ORBY is situated about two miles to the north-west of Burgh, but though a place of undoubted antiquity we find no mention made of it in the Domesday survey. It is probable, however, that at that period it formed part of the possessions of Gilbert de Gaunt and Eudo. the son of Spirewic, for in the Testa de Nevill we find it described as the property of their descendants.

Church. The earliest notice of a church in this parish is in a license granted in 1297 giving permission to the priory of Thornholm to erect one here. The present church is an ancient edifice of freestone, consisting of a nave, south aisle, chancel, and a tower at the western end. The nave is supported on the south side by four handsome pointed arches; springing from octangular pillars. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at £9. 19s. 4½d. Previous to the dissolution of monastic associations, it belonged to the priory of Thornholm. The patronage of the living is in the Bishop of Lincoln, the advowson having been conferred on the bishopric, with many others in the reign of Edward VI. as a compensation for the estates alienated from the see by Bishop Holbeck.

The number of inhabitants at the return of population in 1821, was 282, of houses 44.

Addlethorpe. ADDLETHORPE is situated about a mile from the sea coast, four miles from Burgh, and nine from Wainfleet. The parish is estimated to contain about 1800 acres. The soil is clay, and the land generally considered as rich as any in the county.

Church. The church which is dedicated to St. Nicholas, consists of a nave, north and south aisles, and a handsome substantial tower at the west end; it also formerly possessed a chancel, but that is supposed to have been taken down in 1706, and the end of the nave is now closed by brick work, having a mean looking sash window instead of the fine gothic one that no doubt formerly illumined this part of the church. The interior appears originally to have been very elegant. The nave is separated from the aisles by five arches on each side, springing from light octangular pillars, and at each end of the aisles is a chapel or chantry, enclosed by screen work. At the east end of the nave is remaining the fine screen, which once divided it from the chancel; and at the west end in the arch between the nave and tower, is an equally fine piece of screen work, in the pediment of the central compartment of which is carved in raised letters:—"Orate p'anima Johanis Dudick senior, et uxor ejus." The roof is of oak ornamented with curious bosses. The floor contains several grave-stones, the inscriptions of which are nearly obliterated; one in the north chapel has a cross fleury engraved upon it with the date 1433. Part of the church is filled up with pews, but many of the carved oak stalls are yet remaining.

The exterior of the church is richly ornamented. The buttresses on each side terminate in pinnacles, but on the north side, under the pinnacles, are projecting figures, three of which

* Oldfield. p. 180.

BOOK IV. sustain scrolls, whereon are inscriptions in church text: on that towards the west is:— ? of? gōd? sayng? comse? no? ill? The whole of the figures are of excellent workmanship, and, considering their antiquity and exposure to the weather, in a state of very tolerable preservation. The walls of the navé and side aisles are surmounted by an embattled parapet. The windows contain very fine tracery, and were formerly highly enriched with stained glass, some fragments of which still remain. On the south side is a porch of beautiful construction, surmounted by a cross fluery, on which is represented in bass relief the passion of the Saviour. The interior of the porch contains two niches, a window on each side, and a lavatory; the roof is embellished with foliage, and was formerly painted. The tower, at the west end of the edifice is supported by buttresses at the angles, and has an embattled parapet, with four crocketted pinnacles. In the church yard is a very curious ancient stone cross having a shaft for a dial.

The living of Addlethorpe is a rectory in the gift of the crown. It is valued in the king's books at £9. 10s. 2d. but is estimated to be worth £60. per annum.

The churchwardens accounts are extremely curious, not only as relating to parochial affairs, but also as referring to many customs now obsolete.

By the census of 1821, the population of this parish was on the decrease; the number in 1811 being 192, and in 1821 only 176. It is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Ingoldmells. INGOLDMELLS is situated upon the coast, at the distance of about five miles north eastward from Burgh, and nine from Wainfleet.

Church. The church which is dedicated to St Peter and St. Paul is an ancient gothic edifice of freestone, and consists of a tower, a nave, and side aisles; the chancel being taken down. At the east end of each aisle is a chapel or chantry, enclosed by an oak screen; that in the north contains a niche, the southern one a piscina. The nave of the church is supported by six gothic arches springing from plain circular pillars; some of the ancient oak stalls are still remaining. The font, which stands in the middle aisle is of an octangular shape, and ornamented with foliage and grotesque heads.

The floor of the church, which, according to an inscription therein, was relaid in 1746, contains several ancient memorials, though many others appear to have been wantonly destroyed by the workmen. One stone in the south aisle is inscribed to John Hyltoft de Ingoldmells, who died in 1473; another to Philippus de Boston, much mutilated, another to William Skegness de Ynggoldmells, who died in 1508; and one containing the figure in brass of a man, with his hands closed in prayer, a short crutch by his side, and under him the following inscription in black letter:—

Pray for the sowle of Wyllm̄ Palmer with ye Stylt whiche decesid on holy rode day in ye yere of our Lord God A. M° CCCCC. XX. on whose sowle ihū have mercy.

The floor also contains other stones the inscription of which are obliterated. In the church yard are the remains of the shaft of a cross standing on a square base, round which is the following inscription.

"Io. CLERKE. CHRISTUS
SOLUS MIHI SALUS
ANNO DOM 1600 MB."

The cross served once as a sun-dial, the shaft having been the gnomon, and the base stone, the plate.

The living of Ingoldmells is a discharged rectory, of the clear annual value of £41. 2s. 5¾d tenths £2. 7s. 0¼d. In 1821, the parish contained 31 houses, and 155 inhabitants.

Winthorpe.

WINTHORPE stands near the sea shore from which it is separated only by a narrow slip of land belonging to Skegness. Its distance from Wainfleet is seven miles, and from Burgh four.

Church.

The church is a handsome spacious structure, consisting of a tower, nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel, together with a porch on the south side. The nave is supported by five pointed arches on each side. It has an embattled parapet, in which at the eastern end a small ornamented arch is formed, which appears to have been intended originally for a bell. The chancel, side aisles, and tower are supported by plain buttresses, in the east end of the chancel a modern window has been inserted. The nave is separated from the chancel by a wooden screen of Gothic fret work, above which are rudely carved, the royal arms, having the initials C. R. 1661. Here are also the stone stair-case and the brackets which once supported the rood-loft; the font, which is octagonal, stands at the west end of the south aisle; the pedestal, which is of the same shape bears two shields on every face, though only nine of them are now visible; three are charged with crosses, and the others have various devices, as, a bend between two crescents; an annulet, a chevron, &c. At the east end of each aisle is a small chapel divided from the body of the church by a wooden Gothic screen. The roof of the north chapel has been richly ornamented, having originally been both painted and gilt; a private altar of two steps is still remaining in this chapel, partly covered with a tesselated pavement; the altar stone, on which are five crosses, indicative of the five wounds of our Saviour, has been removed into the middle of the north aisle, and its place supplied on the altar, by some rude hand, with sea pebbles. Scattered about the windows of the church, are a few fragments of stained glass, together with some Catherine wheels.*

The tower of the church, which is very handsome, is surmounted by an embattled parapet, having four pinnacles at the angles, and in the centre, a short wooden shaft or spire covered with lead. The porch, is also surmounted by an embattled parapet, and finished with pinnacles. In the church-yard is an ancient stone cross, raised on three steps, the pedestal of which supports a sun-dial. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at £8.; and is now united to Burgh. Patron, the Bishop of Lincoln.

In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 35, and of inhabitants 233.

Skegness.

SKEGNESS is situated on the sea shore, about four miles south-eastward from Burgh, and is stated to have been anciently a walled town, and to have had a castle. Leland says that, "Skegness was at sumtyme a great haven towne. Mr. Paynell sayed unto me that he could prove that there was ons an Haven and a Towne waulled having also a castelle. The old Toune is clene consumed and eten up with the Se. Part of a chirche of it stode a late. For Old Skegness is now builded a poor new thing.

* Oldfield's Candleshoe, page 287.

BOOK IV. "At low water appear yet manifest tokens of old build.*

Bathing. This village is much frequented during the summer months on account of its fine shore, and excellent accommodation for bathing. Spacious Hotels have been erected, and, indeed, nothing has been neglected that might conduce to the comfort and amusement of its numerous and fashionable visitors.

Church. The church is a small mean edifice, presenting nothing in its exterior worthy of observation. It consists of a nave, chancel, and tower at the western end. On the south side is a low porch. In the aisle stands the font which appears to be much more ancient than the church itself.

The living of Skegness is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £15. 6s. 7d., and is in the gift of the Earl of Scarborough. The church is dedicated to St. Clement.

A cottage together with three acres of land in the vicinity of the church are vested in the minister and churchwardens, for the benefit of the two oldest widows in the parish, but by whom or at what period the gift was made is not known.

On the night of Friday, August 30th 1833, this part of the Lincolnshire coast was visited with the most violent storm which has occurred for many years. During the whole of that night, Saturday and part of Sunday, the wind blew a perfect hurricane, and nothing could withstand its violence; the loss of life and property, we regret to add, was consequently very great; three vessels were driven on shore near Skegness, and from fifteen to twenty bodies were washed upon this part of the coast alone; ten distressed fellow creatures were saved from impending death by that admirable invention the life boat. Two clergymen who were upon the spot, rendered every assistance in their power in saving the shipwrecked seamen, and one of them, Mr. Wing, of Wisbeach, offered up a thanksgiving on the sands immediately after the men had been landed. One of the vessels driven on shore at Skegness was laden with coals, and another was in ballast.

The effects of this storm were also felt most severely in various parts of the country, at Boston the tide rose to so great a height that the houses in Wormgate and many other streets, were literally flooded, the water rushing in with alarming violence, and at Swineshead, the top of a mill belonging to Mr. Jessop, was blown off.

Croft. The village of Croft stands about two miles northward from Wainfleet on the road to Burgh, from which it is situated about an equal distance.

Church. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a handsome freestone structure, consisting of a tower, a nave with side aisles, and a chancel. The tower and nave are finished with a handsome embattled parapet; the aisles and porch with a plain one. The nave is supported by pointed arches springing from octagonal pillars. At the east end of each aisle is a chapel enclosed by screen work, that on the northern side containing a piscina, and the southern one a lavatory. Some of the ancient oak stalls remain, but many have been removed to make room for pews. The chancel is divided from the nave by a gothic screen, which on the west side was formerly very richly ornamented with gilding and painting.

In the chancel are two monuments commemorative of the Brownes, a family once resident in this parish. One of these is embellished with the effigies of a man and woman kneeling

* Leland's Itin. Vol. 7. p. 125.

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at a desk, and below them the figures of their eight sons and seven daughters; above is an inscription to Sir Valentine Browne, knight, and Elizabeth, his wife, the daughter of Sir John Monson, of North Carleton. On the top of the arch is a shield, with the following arms: *Arg*, three martlets in pale, *Sable*, between two flanches of the latter, each charged with a Lion passant guardant of the first armed and langued. *Sang*. Crest: on a wreat a Dragon's head with wings expanded *Sable* with larmes *argent*.

The other monument contains the kneeling figures of a man and woman, and is inscrib to John, second son of Sir Valentine Browne, and servant to king James in his privy chamber, and his two wives, the first of whom died in 1614. At the east end of the nave is a free stone tablet, supported by circular pillars in memory of William Bond, gentleman. In the floor of the south chapel is a mutilated slab, inlaid with the effigies in bust of a knight in chain armour, with his hands in a devotional attitude, the inscription however, has long since been totally effaced. In the middle of the chancel stands a large brass eagle, which was found in digging out a moat, surrounding the remaining part of the hall in this parish, which had formerly been the residence of the Brownes.

The tower of this church is surmounted by four handsome crocketted pinnacles with grotesque figures issuing from the angles.

The living is a vicarage valued in the king's books at £23. 7s. 3½d. Previous to the reformation it belonged to the priory of Kyme, but at this time the patronage is in Lord Monson.

Free School.

In the year 1822 a neat but substantial edifice was erected by voluntary contributions, on a piece of waste land near the south-west corner of the church-yard, as a free school for the children of the poor. The scholars vary in number, according to the season of the year, from thirty-five to sixty; a salary of £10. 10s. 0d. per annum is paid to the master out of the poor rates.

Disgraceful Outrage.

During the persecutions of the non-conformists in the reign of Charles II., the inhabitants of this parish disgraced themselves by their conduct towards the remains of Mr. Robert Shalder, a baptist, who had been imprisoned for non-conformity, and died soon after his release. The same day that he was interred, the inhabitants took him from his grave, and dragged him upon a sledge, to his own gates. He was afterwards re-interred with the following epitaph over his grave:—

"Sleep, pious *Shalder*, sleep in thy sequestered grave,
Christ's faith thou well didst keep, maugre the fiercest wave
Which Satan's storms could raise against thy faith, and now,
In vain he findeth ways, his malice still to show.

Thy saviour had no grave, but what a friend did lend;
Enough, if the servant have like favour at the end.
And now thy faith divine, I'll pin upon thy herse,
It bright, tho' brief doth shine; *Heb.* vi. 1, 2, verse."*

According to the parliamentary returns of 1821, Croft contained 81 houses, and 390 inhabitants.

* Weir's Lincolnshire, p. 386.

The preceding parishes that we have described in this wapentake, are all of them in the Marsh district, those which follow are in the Wold division.

Dalby.

DALBY is a very small village, situate about four miles northward from Spilsby, on the road to Louth. This place has been for many years in the possession, and the seat of the Bourne family.

Church.

The church, which is a small mean edifice, is an ancient building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and south porch, but the interior is neatly fitted up. At the east end of the nave, is an ancient marble monument on which are the effigies of William Llanden, Esq., and Alice his wife, both of whom died in 1621. On the north side of the pulpit is another marble monument, surmounted by the effigies of a female in a kneeling posture, with her hands clasped as in the attitude of devotion. The tablet beneath is inscribed to the memory of July, second daughter of James Mainwaring, of Croxton, in the county of Chester, and first wife of Sir Philip Llanden, knight, who died A. D. 1617.

The living is a small curacy, annexed to the prebendary of Carleton, and is in the gift of the lord bishop of Lincoln.

Tumuli.

At the distance of about half a mile from Dalby toll-gate, in a field on the left of the road, leading to Alford, are four tumuli or barrows, forming a continuous line. The manorial residence, at present occupied by J. Bourne, Esq., stands near the church, in a well wooded park.

In 1821, the parish of Dalby, including the hamlets of Dexthorpe and Forthington, contained 10 houses, and 99 inhabitants.

Sutterby.

SUTTERBY, a small decayed village, is situated about five miles from Spilsby on the road to Louth. Its church is a small mean building, consisting of a nave and chancel. The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £5. 10s. 2½d. It is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and is in the patronage of the king. In 1821 the number of houses in this parish was only 5, and of inhabitants 33.

Skendleby.

The village of SKENDLEBY is situate about four miles north-eastward from Spilsby, and in 1821, contained 38 houses and 210 inhabitants.

Church.

By Domesday book we learn that there was a church in this parish at the time of William the Conqueror, and previous to the year 1094 it was given by Gilbert de Gaunt to the monks of Bardney. The present edifice is an ancient building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and a tower at the west end. A portion of the nave is filled up with pews, for the accommodation of the parishoners, and the remainder is covered with the ancient oak stalls. The font, which is of an octagon shape is highly ornamented. The principal entrance to the church is by the south porch. There are no monuments worthy of particular notice, but on the north side of the chancel are the following armorial bearings:—

Arg, a Cross Molines, in the dexter chief point a mullet pierced G. Empaling, party per pale, *Or* and *Azure*. On a chief *Gules*, three leopards heads, *Or*. Crest; a man in rustic clothing, holding a flail, party per pale, *Arg* and *Azure*; motto "*Now thus*." The motto and crest are those and by the Trafford family.*

* The motto is one of the most ancient in the Kingdom, and is said to have originated in the following manner. The ancestor of the family receiving intelligence that William the Conqueror had given his estates to one of his

The church is situate in a valley, and from the surrounding high ground has a very curious appearance from the fact of the chancel being more elevated than the nave. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at £4. 0s. 5d. CHAP. IV

Charities. Mr. Thomas Woodriffe gave, in the year 1644, to the churchwardens and overseers of this parish, the sum of seventeen pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, which was laid out in the purchase of lands, producing annually £1. 6s. 0d.

In 1666 Mr. William Freeman gave to the poor of Skendleby, four shillings per annum, payable out of an estate devised for that purpose.

Mrs. Isabella Pilkington gave by will, in the year 1780, the sum of one hundred pounds, the interest of which was to be annually appropriated to the support of six aged widows belonging to the parish.

Driby. DRIBY, is a small depopulated village, in a sequestered situation, about five miles and a half from Spilsby on the road to Louth. It was anciently the seat of a family named Driby; it afterwards became the property of the Prescots, and is now part of the possessions of the the family of Massingberd, of Ormsby. The hall, converted into a farm house, remains, with the moat surrounding it.

Church. The church appears to have been at some distant period much larger than it is at present; indeed, it seems that this is merely the chancel of the former edifice, to the east end of which a small chancel is attached. The entrance is by a neat porch on the south side, which was rebuilt in the year 1826. Affixed to the north wall of the nave are the brass effigies of James Prescot, gentleman, and Alice, his wife, the daughter of Sir Richard Mollyneaux, of Sefton, in the county of Lancaster. She died in 1581, and her husband in 1583.

The church is dedicated to St. Michael. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £8. 9s. 4½d. The rectory house, adjoining the church-yard is now in ruins. This parish has the singular feature attached to it, that a female has for several years past officiated as clerk.

In 1821, this village contained only 9 houses, occupied by 82 inhabitants.

Welton. WELTON is situated about 4 miles north-eastward from Burgh, and, with the hamlet of Boothby, contained in 1821, 68 houses, and 355 inhabitants.

Church. The church is dedicated to St. Martin, and is an uninteresting building erected in the year 1792; consisting only of a nave, and chancel, with a small belfry at the west end. The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £14. 8s. 9d.

Hanby Hall. About half a mile from the church is an ancient mansion, called HANBY HALL, the residence of a family named Hanby.

Tumulus. About three hundred yards from hence is a large tumulus or barrow, called Castle Hill, which is conjectured to be of British origin. At a little distance is another building of great

Norman followers, and understanding on what day the Knight would come to take possession of them, he clothed himself in mean apparel, and was found by the Knight thrashing in the barn. The Norman demanding why he so abased himself, could obtain no other answer to his interrogatories than, "Now thus." Whereupon the Knight conceiving the estates to be so poor that they would not maintain him like a gentleman, compromised with Trafford for a trifling consideration, and solicited a better gift of the king. From this period "Now thus" has been the motto of the family, and the above crest has been made use of in remembrance of their ancestor's guile. *Oldfield's Candleshoe, p. p.* 261—2.

BOOK IV. antiquity, known in the neighbourhood as Thwaite Hall which is encircled by a deep fosse, in which the foundations of ancient buildings have frequently been traced.

Bratoft. BRATOFT is a small village standing in an obscure situation at the distance of about two miles westward from Burgh. The manor has been in the possession of the Massingberd family from the year 1538, when it was purchased from Sir John Markham, knt. one of the justices of the King's Bench. Bratoft Hall, the ancient seat of this family, was taken down in 1698, since which period the Massingberds have removed to the adjoining parish of Gunby. The site of the old mansion is a square, containing about two acres; surrounded by a wide moat, and entered on the east side by a bridge of two arches, which is still in a state of tolerable preservation.

Church. The church is a neat structure, dedicated to the Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, and consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, chancel, and a tower at the western end. The nave is supported by five pointed arches, springing from octangular pillars and surmounted by a row of clerestory windows. The font is ancient and is ornamented with shields emblazoned with various devices. At the eastern end of each aisle is a chapel, divided from the body of the church by gothic screen work. Above the arch which gives entrance to the chancel is a painting of the Spanish Armada surmounted by a dragon. At each corner a portion of land is visible inscribed Angliœ, Scotland, Hib nia, and France. Ships, are stationed of the different coasts while England has the Royal Standard displayed, on one side of which are three ports, and on the other a body of troops. The name of Robert Stephenson appears at the bottom, together with the following rude verses:

"Spaines proud Armado with great strength and power
Great Britains state came gaping to devour
This Dragon's guts like Pharoas scattered hoast
Lay splitt and drown'd upon the Irish coast
For 4 eight score save two ships sent from Spaine
But twenty five scarce sound returned again.
Non nobis Domine."

The church contains no monument or inscription worthy of particular description. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the Kings book's at £18. 3s. 6½d, and is in the gift of the crown.

John Stockton, a native of Bratoft, and mercer, had the honour of filling the office of Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1740.

According to the returns made to parliament in 1821, this parish contained 24 houses and 179 inhabitants.

Gunby. GUNBY is a very small village situated near the road leading from Burgh to Horncastle, and is distant about three miles from the former place. In 1821 the parish contained only 8 houses and 69 inhabitants.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a modern edifice, having been rebuilt about the beginning of the last century, and consists of a tower, nave, and chancel. The church

contains many monuments, but the one most worthy of notice is to the memory of William Lodington, one of the judges of the court of King's Bench, in the reign of Henry V. who died in the year 1419. On the tomb lies the effigy of a judge in his gown and coif, with a spotted beast beneath his feet.—In the floor of the nave is the figure in brass of a knight in armour, with that of a female by his side, and under them an inscription to Sir Thomas Massingberd, and his wife, without any date.

The living of Gunby is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £3. 10s. 7½d. His Grace the Duke of Rutland is patron.

Gunby has been for a considerable period the principal seat of the Massingberds, whose mansion stands in a finely wooded park, surrounded by extensive plantations, and commanding an extensive view over the country, the German Ocean, and the Norfolk coast.

Partney.

PARTNEY is a small but pleasant village at the distance of about two miles from Spilsby, and appears to have been of some antiquity. It was formerly a market town, but now, and for some years back the market has been held every Monday at Spilsby. It has still three yearly fairs, two of which are celebrated for fat cattle, and the other, held on the 18th and 19th of October, is for cheese, onions, &c.

From the anthority of several antiquaries we learn that the town has been twice attacked by the plague; bones have been frequently dug up in the fields at a little distance, and during this mortality it was that the town became deserted, and the market removed. The following inscription on a house opposite the church seems to confirm it:

O LORD BE THOU MY
KEEPER. MERCY AND
PEACE BE IN THIS PLACE.
A. D. 1616
J. G. R. B. 1722.

This most probably alluded to it, although some persons ascribe it only to a whim of the architect.

Church.

The church is a large free-stone edifice, and appears to have been built in the reign of some of the Edwards. It consists of a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel, and a handsome tower at the western end. The nave is supported by four pointed arches, springing from octangular pillars, the capitals of which are highly and variously ornamented. The pulpit which is of oak, is richly carved. The font is octagonal and quite plain. In the side aisles are several fragments of stained glass. An inscription above the west pillar of the north aisle commemorates:

"The gift of Mr. Thos. Hackley of London, who died November y^e 4th, 1719. I give and bequeath to the parish of Partney, in Lincolnshire, where my Father was Minister, One Hundred Pounds for ever, to be put out to interest on a mortgage or upon such security as y^e Minister and Churchwardens of y^e said parish, with John Anderson, Sen., Barber-Surgeon of the parish of Spilsby, in the county aforesaid, shall approve of. And y^e interest

BOOK IV. thereof, and that shall arise hereby, I give and bequeath to ye poor of ye said parish, to be distributed yearly ye Sunday before Christmas, at ye discretion of ye Minister and Churchwardens of ye parish of Partney, and ye said John Anderson, and I do desire ye said John Anderson to be overseer thereof, and after the decease of ye said John Anderson Sen., I appoint his Son Overseer."

A fine old oak tree which tradition asserts to have been planted during the time the church was building, stands in the church-yard.

This edifice is dedicated to St. Nicholas. The living is a discharged rectory valued in the king's books at £11. 10s. 2½d.

Monastery. A monastery mentioned by the venerable Bede, in the seventh century at Peartun or Peartenei, in Mercia, is thought to have been at this place, where, in the time of Henry the first, there certainly was an hospital dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen.* The same historian also alludes to another monastery near this, over which the Abbess Edhilda presided.

Fossil Remains. On the 14th of February 1822, a Fossil tooth, weighing two pounds three ounces, was dug up in the Gravel pits near Partney mill. It was imbedded in the gravel about twelve feet below the surface of the ground, and is supposed to have been one of the grinders of a a Hippopotamus, Elephant, or some other animal of large size.

At the census taken in the year 1821, Partney contained 59 houses, occupied by 293 inbitants.

Scremby. The village of SCREMBY is distant about four miles north-westward from Burgh, and three to the north-east of Spilsby.

Church. That there was a church in the parish of Scremby at the period of the Norman Conquest is evident from the mention made of one in the Domesday book. The present edifice however is a plain modern structure, built of brick, and consisting of a western tower, nave and chancel. It is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and the living is a discharged rectory valued in the King's books at £16. 10s. 7½d. The church contains no monument or inscription worthy of particular notice.

Scremby hall. The residence of Miss Brackenburys is a substantial and commodious edifice, situated in one of the most delightful parts of the neighbourhood.

In 1821 Scremby, with its hamlet of Grelby, contained 33 houses and 200 inhabitants.

Ashby. ASHBY, commonly called ASHBY-BY-SPILSBY to distinguish it from other villages of the same name in this part of the county, is distant about two miles from Spilsby and one mile and a half from Partney.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a small wooden belfry at the west end. The entrance is by a porch on the south side. The chancel was formerly thatched, but in 1824 tiles were substituted. The living of Ashby is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's Books at £7. 10s. 7½d.

Three pounds per annum is vested in the overseers for the benefit of the poor, but at what period, or by whom bestowed is not at present known.—One pound per annum was devised by Mr. Taylor, towards the support of one poor person, together with ten shillings per year to be laid out in books for the use of poor children.

* Tanner's Notitia Monasticon.

In the reign of Henry the eighth Ashby was the seat of a family named Sandon.

According to the returns made to parliament in 1821 the number of houses in this parish was 24 and of inhabitants 140.

Candlesby.

The village of CANDLESBY from whence the wapentake derives its name, is situated about three miles eastward from Burgh on the road between that place and Horncastle.

Church.

It appears from the Domesday Book that at the period when the great survey was made, Candlesby possessed two churches, but the site where one of them stood, or the period when it was demolished, are now utterly lost in obscurity. The existing edifice is dedicated to St. Benedict. It is constructed of an inferior freestone with portions of limestone, or chalk, and consists of a tower, nave, and chancel. The nave is covered with lead, the chancel with tiles, coloured like slates. The living is a discharged rectory valued in the Kings books at £9. 19s. 4½d. It is in the gift of the president and Fellows of Magdalen College Oxford, who are also possessed of the manorial rights and a considerable estate in this parish.

Candlesby House.

Candlesby House the residence of Captain Thomas Massingberd R. N., is situated on a lofty eminence, commanding an extensive view over the surrounding country. It is erected on the site of an ancient edifice, supposed to have been appropriated to religious purposes. Various specimens of ancient armour, swords, shields &c. have been found in the neighbourhood.

In 1821 the number of houses in this parish was 44, and of inhabitants 251.

Firsby.

FIRSBY is situated in an obscure place on the north side of the river Limb on the road from Wainfleet to Spilsby, and is about five miles from either town.

Church.

The church belonging to the village is an ancient edifice, at present in a state of great decay. The walls are of sandstone and are very low. The body of the church consists only of a single aisle: The chancel is thatched. In the church yard, at a short distance from the porch is a pillar of stone, which it is probable, at one time had a sun dial on its top. The church is dedicated to St. Andrew. The living is a discharged rectory valued in the King's Books at 12. 0s. 7½d. Prior to the reformation this church belonged to the abbey of Bardney, to which it was presented by Gilbert de Gaunt.

The Rectory House, an ancient structure, was repaired and modernized by Mr. Walls a late incumbent. The celebrated Bishop Warburton was at one time rector of Firsby; being presented to the living by the Duke of Newcastle on the demise of Mr. Thomas Heron in 1730. He held it until 1756 but it does not appear that he was ever resident in the parish.

In 1821 Firsby contained 24 houses, and 119 inhabitants.

Steeping Magna.

STEEPING MAGNA, or Great Steeping as it is commonly called is situated on the north side of the river Limb, and on the road between Wainfleet and Spilsby, at the distance of three miles eastward from the latter place. The whole of the village was given at the Conquest to Gilbert de Gaunt.

Church.

The Domesday record informs us that there were two churches at Steeping, but as a portion of the parish of Gunby was included in that return, it is not improbable that one of them might belong to it. The church is a plain modern structure, the lower part of the walls of which are built of sandstone, the upper part of brick. It has no tower or steeple, a belfry of wood contains one small bell, on which is represented a grotesque head with an illegible inscription in old English characters. The body of the church consists of a single

 aisle surrounded by a parapet, and roofed with lead. The chancel is covered with flat tiles A stone over the west door bears the following inscription: "Built in the year 1748." The church is dedicated to All Saints. It is a discharged vicarage valued in the Kings Books at £7. 18s. 4d. and of the clear annual value of £34. 11s. 11d.

The estates possessed by the abbey of Bardney in Steeping Magna were, it is supposed, situated in that part of the parish which now forms the hamlet of Monksthorpe, a name evidently derived from its former possessors.

The General Baptists had a flourishing church in Monksthorpe for a very long period. The General Assembly of the Messengers, Elders and Representatives of the several congregations of this denomination in Lincolnshire and the Isle of Ely was holden here on the 2d of November 1725 and in 1737. The chapel is now occupied by the Particular or Calvanistic Baptists.

The parish in 1821 contained 55 houses and 278 inhabitants.

Irby. IRBY is a small village situated about five miles south-eastward from Spilsby on the road between that place and Wainfleet.

Church. The church is dedicated to St. Andrew. It is composed of brick and sandstone, and consists of a western tower and chancel. It appears originally to have had side aisles, the arches which supported the nave on the north side still remain. There is a small ornamented niche on each side of the east windows of the chancel. The font is of an octagonal shape small, and very plain. The church dedicated to All Saints, is a curacy, in the presentation of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln.

In 1821 the parish contained 13 houses occupied by 78 inhabitants.

Thorpe. Thorpe a village situated about two miles from Wainfleet, and on the road to Spilsby is in the soke of Bolingbroke, under which head it as already been mentioned.

CHAPTER V.

WAPENTAKES OF CALCEWORTH, HILL, LOUTH-ESKE, LUDBOROUGH, AND WALSHCROFT.

THE wapentake of Calceworth occupies a portion of the eastern side of the county adjoining the sea coast, being situated on the east of the hundred of Hill, and on the south-east of the wapentake of Louth-Eske. It is subdivided into two parts which are distinguished by the names of the Marsh and Wold divisions. Calceworth Wapentake.

The Marsh division of this wapentake contains the parishes of Aby with Greenfield, Anderby, Belleau, Calceby, Cawthorpe, Claythorpe, Cumberworth, Gayton-le-Marsh, Haugh, Hogsthorpe, Huttoft, Legbourn, Mablethorpe, Mumby-cum-Chapel, Sutton in the Marsh, Swaby, Theddlethorpe, South Thoresby, Tothill, and Trusthorpe. Marsh Division.

ABY with GREENFIELD, is situated about three miles northward from Alford, and in 1821, contained 34 houses and 192 inhabitants. The church is demolished, and service is performed once a year in the church yard. In this parish is the hamlet of Greenfield, where was a priory of Cistercian nuns founded before A. D. 1153,* by Eudo de Greinesby and Ralph de Aby, his son, to the honour of St. Mary. Eudo's charter is given in addition to those which Dugdale has preserved in the appendix to the present account: to which, for brevity's sake, we refer for the endowment of this house. Aby with Greenfield.

In Pope Nicholas's taxation we have but one entry concerning Greenfield, p. 59. "Pene, in ecclesia de Beseby."

Tanner says, here were, about the time of the suppression, ten nuns;† whose revenues in the 26th Henry VIII. amounted, in the gross, to £79. 15s. 1d.; in net income to no more than £63. 4s. 1d.

The site of this house was granted first to Charles, Duke of Suffolk; and afterwards, 12th Eliz. to Sir Henry Stanley, Knt. Lord Strange, and Margaret his wife.‡ Numerous charters to the prioresses and convent of Greenfield, are preserved among the manuscripts in the British Museum. No seal of this house has yet been discovered.

PRIORESSES OF GREENFIELD.

AMABILIS, occurs A. D. 1237.
MATILDA, A. D. 1260.
SARA.

* Because Randal, Earl of Chester, died this year, who had confirmed to these nuns some lands, as appears by the charter of his son Hugh, extant in Sir Peter Leycester's Antiquities, p. 131.

† Notit. Mon. *Linc.* xxx.

‡ Ibid.

IVETTA, A. D. 1325; and again in 1327.
MARGARET, occurs in 1341; and again in 1348.
ISABELLA, 45th Edw. III.
JOAN, occurs in the 21st Ric. II.
ALICE, without date.
MARGARET, in 1401; and again in the 3rd Hen. V.
JOANNA, 15th Hen. VI.
ELIZABETH, occurs 2nd Ric. III.
JOAN SKIPWITH in the 1st Hen. VIII.; and again in 1517.

The moated area, where the buildings once stood, is the only remain of this monastery, by which it appears to have been situated a little to the north west of Alford.

Anderby. The village of ANDERBY is situated near the sea shore, at the distance of about six miles eastward from Alford. The church is a small uninteresting building, dedicated to St. Andrew. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £13. 10s. 2d.; and is in the patronage of Magdalen College, Cambridge.

According to the parliamentary returns, of 1821, this parish contained 39 houses, and 226 inhabitants.

Belleau. BELLEAU, so called from the excellent springs of water which issue from a chalk hill in the vicinity,* is a depopulated village, situated about three miles north westward from Alford. The church which stands on a hill is an uninteresting edifice, containing the mutilated figure in stone of a warrior in armour, with a lion beneath his feet: he is cross legged, and appears to be in the act of drawing his sword.

On the eastern side of the hill, and adjacent to a fine stream of water, is a farm house, retaining some considerable remains of ancient brick work. These ruins have been termed "The Abbey," but they are now considered, with more probability the vestiges of a house once belonging to the earl of Lindsey. It was surrounded by a moat, and entered on the north, where the base court seems to have been, and where a second moat surrounded the outer offices. Part of the north gate-house is remaining, and consists of two obtuse archways groined and ribbed with stone, and part of an octagonal turret; and in the point of one of the arches is a boldly sculptured grotesque head, carved in stone. The walls are covered with ivy, and overtopped by lofty ash trees.†

After the termination of the civil war this place was sequestered to that eccentric character, Sir Henry Vane, who amused himself here on Sundays, in assembling and preaching to his country neighbours.

In 1821 this parish contained 14 houses, and 88 inhabitants.

Calceby. CALCEBY, which gives name to the wapentake is now a depopulated village, distant about four miles westward from Alford, near the road between that place and Horncastle. Its church, which is in ruins was dedicated to St. Andrew. The living is a vicarage valued in the king's books at £5. 10s. 2d. In 1821 it contained 5 houses, and 54 inhabitants.

* Near this place is one of the finest springs in the county, being sufficient to turn a large mill immediately at its source.

† A vignette of this ruin is given in Weir's Lincolnshire, p. 355.

CHAP. V.

Cawthorpe

CAWTHORPE, commonly called Little Cawthorpe, is a small village distant about three miles southward from Louth. The manor house, once the seat of the Mottrams, is a singular building in the form of a cross, having four gables; on that towards the east, is a shield containing arms, but so mutilated, as to be indecipherable; and on that to the south, is a shield with I M 60.

Church.

The church is a small mean edifice dedicated to St. Helen. The living is a vicarage valued in the king's books at £3. 4s. 4d.

In 1821, the parish contained 18 houses, and 57 inhabitants.

Claythorpe.

CLAYTHORPE, though a separate constablewick, is only a hamlet to the parish of Belleau, from which it is distant about a mile northward. Sir Charles Hussey, of Claythorpe, was created baronet 21st July, 1661; the title is now extinct. In 1821, it contained 10 houses, and 57 inhabitants.

Cumberworth

The village of CUMBERWORTH, is situated in a retired place about five miles south eastward from Alford. The church, which offers no claim for particular attention, is dedicated to St. Helen. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £10. 10s. 2d. and is in the gift of Magdalen College Cambridge. In 1821 the parish contained 26 houses, and 170 inhabitants.

Gayton le Marsh.

GAYTON LE MARSH, this village which has obtained the addition of *le Marsh* to distinguish is from Gayton le Wold, in the hundred of Louth Eske, is situated about five miles and a half north west of Alford. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £13. 10s. 2½d. and is in the patronage of the crown. The church is dedicated to St. George. In 1821 Gayton contained 48 houses, and 276 inhabitants.

Haugh.

HAUGH, which is extra-parochial, stands on an elevated situation about two miles westward from Alford, and contains only one house. This edifice which is constructed of red brick, is considerably reduced from its original dimensions, and appears to have been erected about the early part of the reign of Henry VII. Of the few architectural ornaments which it retains, the most remarkable is a range of battlements along the front, between the upper and lower stories. On the north of the house was formerly an avenue of seventy ancient yew trees, of which about a dozen only remain. This place was once the seat of a family named Hagh, but it subsequently came unto the possession of a family named Bolle, the elder branch of which settled at this place. In the south aisle of the church of Boston, is an inscription to the memory of Richard Bolle, Esquire, of Hagh, who died in 1519.

Church.

The church is a small unassuming edifice, though it appears to have been formerly of larger dimensions. Against the south wall of the chancel is a monument in marble, to the memory of Charles, the son of Richard Bolle, Esquire, and his four wives; he died in 1580, during the life time of his father. The chancel also contains a monument to Sir John Bolle, knight, son of the above mentioned Charles Bolle, Esq., who died in 1606. The floor of the church contains inscriptions to Joanna de Welby, and Agnes de Clour, the first and second wives of John de Hagh, without dates; Isabella, wife of Richard de Hagh, dated 1417; John de Hagh, dated 1458; Thomas de Hagh, dated 14..; and Robert de Wynceby, dated 1425.

In this church divine service is but rarely performed in consequence of the fee paid to the clergyman being rather expensive to the proprietor of the adjoining mansion.

BOOK IV.

Hogsthorpe. HOGSTHORPE, is a considerable village near the sea shore, and about six miles south eastward from Alford. The church is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel, and a tower at the western end. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £10, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. Patron, the bishop of Lincoln. This parish also contains a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. In 1821 the number of houses in Hogsthorpe was 105, and of inhabitants 591.

Huttoft. Church. HUTTOFT stands on an elevated situation at the distance of about four miles eastward from Alford. The church is a handsome spacious structure consisting of a tower, a nave with side aisles, and a chancel. The font, which is curiously sculptured, is octagonal, each face of which as well as the shaft, being ornamented with figures in high relief. One of the old registers is extremely curious, and contains a list of the boys educated at Alford school, after the restoration of monarchy. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £6. 11s. 8d., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln by sequestration. The church is dedicated to St. Margaret. Here is also a place of worship for that denomination of dissenters termed Wesleyan Methodists.

In 1821, this parish contained 73 houses, and 401 inhabitants. It is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster.

Legbourn. LEGBOURN, this parish is a portion of the Marsh division of Calceworth, though locally, it is situated in the hundred of Louth Eske. The village is about three miles southward from Louth, and once contained a priory of Cistercian nuns, which was founded by Robert Fitz Gilbert de Lekeburn or Tadwalle before the first year of King John. Of the history of this monastery very little is known. The following are the few entries relating to it in the Taxation of 1291: *Spiritual.* Dioc. Linc. Ecclesia de Salfletteby Sancti Petri porc. Monial. de Lekeburn, £6. 13s. 4d. Porcio in eccl. de Lekeburn, £7. 6s. 8d. *Temporal.* In decanatibus Lincoln £0. 3s. 0d. Calswell, £5. 4s. 2d. Hoyland, £2. 10s. 0d. Luthesk et Latheburg £13. 2s. 9¼d. Summa Temporalium, £20. 19s. 11¾d.

Tanner says, here were ten nuns. In the 26th Hen. VIII., the gross revenues of this house amounted to about to £57. 13s. 5½d.; the nett income to £38. 8s. 4d. The following are the only names of the

PRIORESSES OF LEGBOURN

which have occurred:

AGNES, A. D. 1513.
JOAN GOODHAND, A. D. 1534.
JANE MESSENDENE, occurs A. D. 1537.

The common seal of this religious house had for its subject the Virgin Mary crowned, seated, and having in her right hand a sceptre, in her left the divine infant; Legend, SIGILLUM. SANCTE. MARIE. DE. LEKEBUR'. An impression on red wax is appended to a deed of the 13th century in the Office of the Duchy of Lancaster. The site of this priory was granted December 29th in the 32d Henry VIII., to Sir Thomas Henneage, Knt.* The

* Rep. Orig. MSS. Brit. Mus. vol. iii. p. 181.

monastic buildings are now demolished, and a modern dwelling house stands on the site. CHAP. V.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, stands on the north side of the road. It is a handsome building, consisting of a nave, chancel, side aisles, and a substantial tower at the west end. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with, £200 private benefaction, £200 royal bounty and £600 parliamentary grant. Church.

In the chancel, within the rails is a blue slab bearing the following inscription:—

Hoc Marmor
Reliquis Uxoris Mariæ Grey
Superstratum
et suo mœmori
et fœminæ lectissimæ memoriæ
Sacrum voluit
Zach: Grey, L. L. B.
Rector de Hemingsby*
ob. 29° Jun: 1719
Ann: Ætat, 25.

The south wall of the chancel contains a piscina, as does also the wall at the end of the south aisle.

At the western end of the church, beneath the gallery is a neat table monument of marble to the memory of Hinman Allenby Esq. who died the 17th of August 1807, in the 49th year of his age, and close by, against the north wall, is a neat tablet inscribed to the memory of his two sons, one of whom was drowned at the age of fifteen whilst bathing at Mablethorpe; the other lost his life at a subsequent period in consequence of a cold caught whilst ascending Mount Ætna.

In the middle and south aisles are slabs with nearly obliterated inscriptions in gothic characters, probably in memory of some of the nuns formerly belonging to the priory.

Here is also a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained 81 houses, occupied by 412 inhabitants.

The village of MABLETHORPE is distant about seven miles north eastward from Alford, and being delightfully situated on the sea coast it is much frequented in the summer season on account of the excellent sea bathing it affords. This village though forming only one constablewick, contains two parishes, which are denominated St. Mary's, and St Peter's; but the church of the former parish, which stood about a mile north eastward from that of the latter, is stated to have been destroyed by the encroachments of the sea, which have, at a former period, been very extensive in various parts of this coast. The living of Mablethorpe St. Mary was a rectory, with which that of Stain was united, and was rated in the king's books at £17. 10s. 2½. Mablethorpe.

The church of St. Peter, which is yet remaining, is an unpretending edifice, consisting of a nave, north and south aisle, a chancel, and a low tower at the west end. On the north side of the chancel is a tomb, over which is a recess, the back of which has once contained figures in brass, kneeling before desks, all of which are gone; the whole has been neatly Church.

BOOK IV. wrought with tracery, and is in the style prevalent about the reign of Henry VIII.

A broken iron helmet hangs near the monument, which is said to have belonged to the earl, hereafter mentioned, who was killed in a duel, and buried in this church. The pavement of the church contains inscriptions on brass plates to Thomas Fitzwilliam, Esq., and Elizabeth his wife, both of whom died in 1403; also the brass effigies of a female inscribed to Elizabeth, daughter of George Fitzwilliam, Esq., who died in 1522; and a brass plate commemorative of George Fitzwilliam, knight, who died in 1536. The living is a discharged rectory, united in 1745, to that of Theddlethorpe, St. Helen, and is rated in the king's books at £7. 10s. 2d.

The Hall. About a mile from the village was once the seat of the above named family of Fitzwilliam, part of whose mansion, converted into a farm house, is standing within a spacious moated area, and is still denominated the Hall. There is a tradition, yet current, that in ancient times a French ship arrived on the coast, and landed a party of men who in the night made a rapid march to this hall, and having felled a tree to enable them to pass the moat, suddenly seized and carried off the heir of the estate, and well knowing the value of their prisoner, forced so large a ransom, that a great part of the family estates in this parish, and in Withern and Stain, were sold on the occasion.

At a short distance southward from the hall are the traces of another moated area, which is stated to have been the residence of another distinguished family, the name of which is involved in obscurity.

Earl's Bridge. On the eastern side of the parish is a drain, dividing this parish from that of Maltby, over which is a bridge called Earls bridge, whereon, it is traditionally related, that two earls fought a duel which proved fatal to both, upon which one of them was buried in the church of Mablethorpe, (as above stated,) and the other in that of Maltby.

In 1821 the parish of St. Mary contained 40 houses, and 200 inhabitants; the parish of St. Peter, at the same period contained 38 houses, and 135 inhabitants.

Mumby cum Chapel. The village of Mumby is situated about six miles south eastward from Alford, and in 1821 contained, with Chapel-Mumby; adjacent to the sea coast, 108 houses, and 582 inhabitants.

Church. The church consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, a chancel, and a tower of excellent masonry. Against the south wall of the chancel is a small marble tablet to the memory of Sarah, the wife of Mungo Graham, of Savannah in Georgia, and relict of John Amory, gent. who died at St. Jago, in Cuba, in 1748. She was the daughter of James Wilson, of Nocton, near Lincoln.

The living is a discharged rectory, rated in the kings books at £9. 12s. 3d. endowed with £200 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln.

The hamlet possesses a small neat chapel, from whence it derives its cognomen.

South Reston. South Reston is situated about eight miles north westward from Alford, on the road between that place and Louth. The church is a small modern structure, presenting no features worthy of particular attention. The living is a discharged rectory rated in the king's books at £5 10s. 2½d.; endowed with £200 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the king, as duke of Lancaster. The church is dedicated to St. Edith.

In 1821, this parish was ascertained to contain 25 houses 111 inhabitants.

Sutton in the Marsh. Sutton in the Marsh, this village is situated on the sea coast, at the distance of about

six miles and a half north-eastward from Alford, and in 1821 contained 29 houses and 135 inhabitants. CHAP. V.

The church, dedicated to St. Clement, is an uninteresting modern structure, the original edifice, says tradition, having been destroyed by the encroachments of the sea. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £6. 13s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the Prebendary of Sutton, in Marisco, in the Cathedral church of Lincoln. Church.

For a considerable distance along this part of the coast, a number of islets, chiefly composed of decayed trees, are to be found indicating the county hereabouts to have been, at a remote period, an extensive forest. The following paper, illustrative of the subject, was published in the Transactions of the Royal Society for 1799. Fossil Vegetable substances

" *On the Cause of Fossil Vegetables.*"—*By Joseph Correa de Serra, L L.D. F.R.S. F.S.A.*

"It was a common report in Lincolnshire, that a large extent of islets of moor, situated along its coast, and visible only at the lowest ebbs of the year, was chiefly composed o decayed trees. These islets are marked in Mitchell's chart of that coast, by the name of clay huts; and the village of Huttoft, opposite to which they principally lie, seems to have derived its name from them. In the month of September 1796, I went to Sutton, on the coast of Lincolnshire, in company with Sir Joseph Banks, to examine their extent and nature. The 19th of the month, being the first day after the equinoctial full moon, when the lowest ebbs were to be expected, we went in a boat, at half-past twelve at noon, and soon after set foot upon one of the largest islets then appearing. Its exposed surface was about thirty yards long, and twenty-five wide, when the tide was at the lowest. A great number of islets were visible round us, chiefly to the eastward and southward; and the fishermen, whose authority on this point is very competent, say, that similar moors are to be found along the whole coast, from Skegness to Grimsby, particularly off Addlethorpe and Mablethorpe. The channels dividing the islets were, at the time we saw them, wide, and of various depths; the islets themselves ranging generally from east to west in their largest dimension.

"We visited them again in the ebbs of the 20th and 21st; and, though it generally did not ebb so far as we expected, we could notwithstanding ascertain, that they consisted almost entirely of roots, trunks, branches, and leaves of trees and shrubs, intermixed with some leaves of aquatic plants. The remains of these trees were still standing on their roots; while the trunks of the greater part lay scattered on the ground, in every possible direction. The bark of the trees and roots appeared generally as fresh as when they were growing; in that of the birches particularly, of which a great quantity was found, even the thin silvery membranes of the outer skin were discernible. The timber of all kinds, on the contrary, was decomposed and soft, in the greatest part of the trees; in some however it was firm, especially in the knots. The people of the country have often found among them very sound pieces of timber, fit to be employed for several economical purposes.

"The sorts of wood which are still distinguishable, are birch, fir, and oak. Other woods evidently exist in these islets, of some of which we found the leaves in the soil; but our present knowledge of the comparative anatomy of timbers, is not so far advanced as to

BOOK IV. afford us the means of pronouncing with confidence respecting their species. In general, the trunks, branches, and roots of the decayed trees, were considerably flattened; which is a phenomena observed in the Surtarbrand or fossil wood of Iceland, and which Scheuchzer remarked also in the fossil wood found near the lake of Thun, in Switzerland. The soil to which the trees are affixed, and in which they grew, is a soft greasy clay; but, for many inches above its surface, the soil is entirely composed of rotten leaves, scarcely distinguishable to the eye, many of which may be separated, by putting the soil in water, and dexterously and patiently using a spatula, or blunt knife. By this method, I obtained some perfect leaves of ilex aquifolium, which are now in the herbarium of Sir Joseph Banks; and some other leaves which, though less perfect, seem to belong to some species of willow. In this stratum of rotten leaves, we could also distinguish several roots of arundo phragmites.

" These islets, according to the most accurate information, extend at least twelve miles in length, and about a mile in breadth, opposite Sutton shore. The water without them, towards the sea, generally deepens suddenly, so as to form a steep bank. The channels between the several islets, when the islets are dry, in the lowest ebbs of the year, are from four to twelve feet deep; their bottoms are clay or sand, and their direction is generally from east to west. A well dug at Sutton, by Joseph Searby, shows that a moor of the same nature is found under-ground, in that part of the country, at the depth of sixteen feet; consequently, very nearly on the same level with that which constitutes the islets. The disposition of the strata was found to be as follows:—

Clay	16 feet
Moor, similar to that of the islets	from 3 to 4 ditto
Soft moor, like the scowerings of a ditch bottom, mixed with shells and silt	20 ditto
Marly Clay	1 ditto
Chalk rock	from 1 to 2 ditto
Clay	31 yards.

Gravel and water; the water has a chalybeate taste.

" In order to ascertain the course of this subterraneous stratum of decayed vegetables, Sir Joseph Banks directed a boring to be made, in the fields belonging to the Royal Society, in the parish of Mablethorpe. Moor, of a similar nature to that of Searby's well, and of the islets, was found, very nearly on the same level, about four feet thick, and under it a soft clay.

" The whole appearance of the rotten vegetables we observed, perfectly resembles, according to the remark of Sir Joseph Banks, the moor which, in Blankney fen, and in other parts of the East fen in Lincolnshire, is thrown up in the making of banks; barks, like those of the birch tree, being there also abundantly found. This moor extends over all the Lincolnshire fens, and has been traced as far as Peterborough, more than sixty miles to the south of Sutton. On the north side, the moory islets, according to the fishermen, extend as far as Grimsby, situated on the south side of the mouth of the Humber; and it is a remarkable circumstance, that in the large tracts of low lands which lie on the south banks of that river, a little above its mouth, there is a subterraneous stratum of decayed trees and shrubs,

exactly like those we observed at Sutton; particularly at Axholme isle, a tract of ten miles in length, by five in breadth; and at Hatfield chase, which comprehends one hundred and eighty thousand acres. Dugdale* has long ago made this observation, in the first of these places; and De la Prynne† in the second. The roots are there likewise standing in the places were they grew; the trunks lie prostrate. The woods are of the same species as at Sutton. Roots of aquatic plants and reeds are likewise mixed with them; and they are covered by a stratum of some yards of soil, the thickness of which, though not ascertained with exactness by the above-mentioned observers, we may easily conceive to correspond with that which covers the stratum of decayed wood at Sutton, by the circumstance of the roots being, according to Mr. Richardson's observations,‡ only visible when the water is low, where a channel was cut, which has left them uncovered.

"Little doubt can be entertained of the moory islets of Sutton being a part of this extensive subterraneous stratum, which, by some inroad of the sea, has been there stripped of its covering of soil. The identity of the levels; that of the species of trees; the roots of these affixed, in both to the soil where they grew; and, above all, the flattened shape of the trunks, branches, and roots, found in the islets, which can only be accounted for by the heavy pressure of a superinduced stratum, are sufficient reasons for this opinion. Such a wide spread assemblage of vegetable ruins, lying almost in the same level, and that level generally under the common mark of low water, must naturally strike the observer, and give birth to the following questions. 1. What is the epoch of this destruction? 2. By what agency was it effected? In answer to these questions, I will venture to submit the following reflections.

"The fossil remains of vegetables hitherto dug up in so many parts of the globe, are, on a close inspection, found to belong to two very different states of our planet. The parts of vegetables, and their impressions, found in mountains of a cotaceous,§ schistous, or even sometimes of a calcareous nature, are chiefly of plants now existing between the tropics, which could neither have grown in the latitudes in which they are dug up, nor have been carried and deposited there by any of the acting forces under the present constitution of nature. The formation indeed of the very mountains in which they are buried, and the nature and disposition of the materials which compose them, are such as we cannot account for by any of the actions and re-actions which, in the actual state of things, take place on the surface of the earth. We must necessarily recur to that period in the history of our planet, when the surface of the ocean was at least so much above its present level, as to cover even the summits of these secondary mountains which contain the remains of tropical plants. The changes which these vegetables have suffered in their substance is almost total; they commonly retain only the external configuration of what they originally were. Such is the state in which they have been found in England, by Llwyd; in France by Jessieu; in the Netherlands, by Burtin; not to mention instances in more distant countries. Some of the impressions or remains of plants found in soils of this nature, which were, by more ancient and less enlightened oryctologists, supposed to belong to

* History of Embanking and Draining, chap. 27.

† Phil. Trans. vol. xxii. p. 980.

‡ Phil. Trans. vol. xix. p. 528. § Sandy.

 plants actually growing in temporate and cold climates, seem, on accurate investigation, to have been parts of exotic vegetables. In fact, whether we suppose them to have grown near the spot were they are found, or to have been carried thither from different parts, by the force of an impelling flood, it is equally difficult to conceive, how organized beings, which, in order to live, require such a vast difference in temperature and in seasons, could live on the same spot, or how their remains could, from climates so widely distant be brought together to the same place, by one common dislocating cause. To this ancient order of fossil vegetables belong whatever retains a vegetable shape, found in or near coal mines, and, to judge from the places where they have been found, the greater part of the agatized woods. But, from the species and present state of the trees which are the subject of this memoir, and from the situation and nature of the soil in which they are found, it seems very clear that they do not belong to this primeval order of vegetable ruins.

"The second order of fossil vegetables comprehends those which are found in strata of clay or sand; materials which are the result of slow depositions of the sea or of rivers, agents still at work under the present constitution of our planet. These vegetable remains are found in such flat countries as may be considered to be of a new formation. Their vegetable organization still subsists, at least in part; and their vegetable substance has suffered a change only in colour, smell, or consistence: alterations which are produced by the developement of their oily and bituminous parts, or by their natural progress towards rottenness. Such are the fossil vegetables found in Cornwall, by Borlase; in Essex, by Dirham; in Yorkshire by De la Pryme, and Richardson; and in foreign countries by other naturalists. These vegetables are found at different depths, some of them much below the present level of the sea, but in clayey or sandy strata, evidently belonging to modern formation, and have no doubt, been carried from their original place, and deposited there by the force of great rivers or currents, as it has been observed with respect to the Mississippi. In many instances, however, these trees and shrubs are found standing on their roots, generally in low or marshy places, above, or very little below the actual level of the sea.

"To this last description of fossil vegetables, the decayed trees, here described, certainly belong. They have not been transported by currents or rivers; but, though standing in their native soil, we cannot suppose the level in which they are found, to be the same as that in which they grew. It would have been impossible for any of these trees and shrubs to vegetate so near the sea, and below the common level of its water; the waters would cover such tracts of land and hinder any vegetation. We cannot conceive that the surface of the ocean has ever been lower than it now is, on the contrary, we are led by numberless phænomena to believe, that the level of the waters in our globe is much below what it was in former periods; we must therefore conclude, that the forest here described grew in a level high enough to permit its vegetation; and that the force, whatever it was, which destroyed it, lowered the level of the ground where it stood.

"There is a force of subsidence, particularly in soft ground, which, being a natural consequence of gravity, slowly though perpetually operating, has its actions sometimes quickened and rendered sudden by extraneous causes, for instance, by earthquakes. The slow effects of the force of subsidence have been accurately remarked in many places; examples also of its sudden action are recorded in almost every history of great earthquakes. The

shores of Alexandria, according to Dolomieu's observations, are a foot lower than they were in the time of the Ptolemies. Donati, in his Natural History of the Adriatic, has remarked, seemingly with great accuracy, the effects of this subsidence at Venice; at Pola, in Istria; at Lissa, Bua, Zara, and Diclo, on the coast of Dalmatia. In England, Borlase, has given, in the Phil. Trans. vol. 48, p. 62, a curious observation of a subsidence, of at least sixteen feet, in the ground between Sampson and Trescaw islands, in Scilly. The soft and low ground between the towns of Thorne and Gowle, in Yorkshire a space of many miles, has so much subsided in later times that some old men of Thorne affirmed, "that whereas they could before see little of the steeple of Gowle, they now see the churchyard wall."* The instances of similar subsidence which might be mentioned, are innumerable.

"This force of subsidence suddenly acting by means of some earthquake, seems the most probable cause to which the actual submarine situation of the forest of which we are speaking of may be ascribed. It affords a simple easy explanation of the matter; its probability is supported by numberless instances of similar events; and it is not liable to the strong objections which exist against the hypothesis of the alternate depression and elevation of the level of the ocean; an opinion which, to be credible, requires the support of a great number of proofs less equivocal than those which have hitherto been urged in its favour, even by the genius of a Lavoisier.†

"The stratum of soil, sixteen feet thick, placed above the decayed trees, seems to remove the epoch of their sinking and destruction, far beyond the reach of any historical knowledge. In Cæsar's time, the level of the north sea appears to have been the same as in our days. He mentions the separation of the Wahal branch of the Rhine, and its junction to the Meuse; noticing the then existing distance from that junction to the sea; which agrees, according to D'Anville's inquiries,‡ with the actual distance. Some of the Roman roads constructed by order of Augustus, under Agrippa's administration, leading to the maritime towns of Belgium, still exist, and reach the present shore.§ The descriptions which Roman authors have left us, of the coasts, ports, and mouths of rivers, on both sides of the north sea, agree in general with their present state; except in the places ravaged by the inroads of this sea, more apt, from its form, to destroy the surrounding countries, than to increase them.

"An exact resemblance exists between maritime Flanders and the opposite low coast of England, both in point of elevation above the sea, and of internal structure and arrangement of their soils. On both sides, strata of clay, silt, and sand, often mixed with decayed vegetables, are found near the surface; and in both, these superior materials cover a very deep stratum of bluish or dark-coloured clay, unmixed with extraneous bodies. On both sides, they are the lowermost part of the soil, existing between the ridges of high lands,** on their

* Gough's edition of Camden's Britannia, t. 3, p. 35. † Mem. de l'Acad. de Paris, 1789, p. 351.

‡ D'Anville Notice des Gaules, p. 461.

§ Nichol. Bergier Hist. des grands Chemins des Romains. Ed. de Bruxelles. vol. 2, p 169.

** These ridges of high land, both on the British and Belgic side, must be very similar to each other, since they both contain parts of tropical plants in a fossil state. Cocoa nuts, and fruits of the areca, are found in the Belgic ridge The petrified fruits of Sheppey, and other impressions of tropical plants, on this side of the water, are well known.

BOOK IV. respective sides of the same narrow sea. These two countries are certainly coëval; and whatever proves that maritime Flanders has been for many ages out of the sea, must, in my opinion, prove also, that the forest we are speaking of was long before that time destroyed, and buried under a stratum of soil. Now it seems proved, from historical records, carefully collected from several learned members of the Brussels academy, that no material change has happened to the lowermost part of maritime Flanders, during the period of the last two thousand years.*

"I am therefore inclined to suppose the original catastrophe which buried this forest, to be of a very ancient date; but I suspect the inroad of the sea which uncovered the decayed trees of the islets of Sutton, to be comparatively recent. The state of the leaves and of the timber, and also the tradition of the neighbouring people, concur to strengthen this suspicion. Leaves and other delicate parts of plants, though they may be long preserved in a subterraneous situation, cannot remain uninjured, when exposed to the action of the waves and of the air. The people of the country believe, that their parish church once stood on the spot where the islets now are, and was submerged by the inroads of the sea; that, at very low water, their ancestors could even discern its ruins; that their present church was built to supply the place of that which the waves washed away; and that even their present clock belonged to the old church. So many concomitant, though weak testimonies, incline me to believe their report, and to suppose that some of the stormy inundations of the north sea, which in these last centuries have washed away such large tracts of land on its shores, took away a soil resting on clay, and at last uncovered the trees which are the subject of this paper."

Swaby.

SWABY; this parish is situated about five miles and a half north-westward from Alford. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a very mean and ruinous edifice. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £12. 1s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the President and Fellows of Magdalen College, Oxford.

The Wesleyan Methodists have a neat and commodious place of worship in this parish.

According to the returns of 1821, Swaby contained 54 houses, and 302 inhabitants.

Theddlethorpe All Saints.

THEDDLETHORPE is a very considerable village on the sea-coast, distant about ten miles north-eastward from Alford. It contains two parishes, which are denominated Theddlethorpe All Saints, and Theddlethorpe St. Helens, each of which possesses a church; but the two parishes are united under one constablewick.

Church.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a very handsome structure, consisting of a tower, a nave with side aisles, and a chancel; at the eastern end of each aisle is a chapel, enclosed by richly carved screens, and the southern chapel having a recess with a fine canopy, once occupied by an altar. The chancel is divided from the nave by a very beautiful screen, over which has once been a rood loft, the stairs of which are still remaining in the north pier of the great arch. On the floor at the entrance of the chancel lies the ancient altar stone, having five crosses engraven on it, in token of the five wounds of Christ. On the pavement is a stone inscribed to Robert de Hagneby, the date of which has been destroyed. Another contains the effigies in brass, with an inscription to Robert Hayton, Esq., who died in 1429;

* Vide several papers in the Brussels Memoires; also Journ de Phys. t. 34. p 401.

and near these are two stones, which have once contained brass effigies, and inscriptions, all of which, however, have disappeared. Against the north wall of the chancel is a tablet inscribed to Nicholas Newcomen, who died in 1703; and by the side of it is another tablet, to the memory of Mary Newcomen, his daughter, who died in 1694. Against the same wall is a large monument, ornamented with two busts on a sarcophagus, and containing memorials of the honourable Charles Bertie, who died in 1727, and Dame Mary, his first wife, widow of Nicholas Newcomen; who died in 1725. The floor of the chancel contains a slab, to the memory of William Skoopholme, gent., who died in 1710. CHAP. V.

In the floor of the south chapel are two slabs, containing memorials of Richard Pilkington, Esq., who died in 1729; and Anne, his wife, who died in the same year.

The screen work and the timbers of the roof are ornamented with several carvings of shields, containing armorial bearings, most of them belonging to distinguished inhabitants of this place in former ages.

The living of Theddlethorpe All Saints is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £7. 5s. 2½d., endowed with £400. private benefaction, £800. royal bounty, and £600. parliamentary grant.

In 1821, this parish contained 44 houses, and 211 inhabitants.

Theddlethorpe St. Helen's.

THEDDLETHORPE ST. HELEN'S; this village situated within a very short distance of the one we have just described, was once the residence of the Newcomens, whose seat afterwards came by marriage to the Berties; the Pilkingtons, and Marshalls, were also seated here.

Church.

The church of Theddlethorpe St. Helen, is a neat structure, consisting of a tower, a nave, with side aisles, and a chancel. At the eastern end of the south aisle, is a canopied recess in the wall, where an altar formerly stood. The walls of the chancel have been lined with funeral atchievements, and heraldic insignia of blazoned surcoats, banners, and helmets, of the latter of which one, only, of each remains. The communion table is of marble, and was the gift of Mrs. Mary Newcomen, who appears to have expended a large sum of money in decorating the chancel.

The living is a rectory, with that of Mablethorpe St. Peter united, rated in the king's books at £18. 10s. 2½d., and is in the patronage of Lord Gwydyr. There is also in this parish a place of worship for the Wesleyan Methodists.

According to the returns made in 1821, Theddlethorpe St. Helen's contained 48 houses, and 239 inhabitants.

South Thoresby.

SOUTH THORESBY. This village is situated at the distance of about four miles north-westward from Alford, and contained according to the population returns of 1821, 22 houses, occupied by 149 inhabitants. Here was formerly a handsome seat belonging to a family named Wood, proprietors of this lordship, but demolished a few years since.

Church.

The church is a neat modern structure, dedicated to St. Andrew, and containing, among other memorials of little interest, a handsome tablet to Willoughby John Wood, Esq., belonging to the family above mentioned, who died A. D. 1786. The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £6. 8s. 6d., and is in the patronage of the king, as duke of Lancaster.

The waters descending from a number of chalk hills in the vicinity, joining at this place,

BOOK IV. form a rivulet, which, increased by the springs of Belleau, runs to Witham, whence it might be made at a small expence, navigable to the sea, the fall from hence to Saltfleet being little more than five feet.

Tothill. TOTHILL is a retired little village, situated on the edge of a morass, about five miles north-westward from Alford. Within a short distance from the manor house, is a peculiar military earth work, consisting of a wide deep ditch about seventy yards in length, close by the side of which is a very lofty round hill, which to this day retains its ancient appellation of *Toote-hill*, and from which the name of the village is derived.

Church. The church, erected upon another artificial hill, is a small modern edifice, containing nothing that is worthy of particular attention. The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £6. 17s. 0d. per annum. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. In 1821, this parish contained 11 houses, and 72 inhabitants.

Trusthorpe. The village of TRUSTHORPE is pleasantly situated on the sea coast, at the distance of about six miles north-eastward from Alford. According to the population returns of 1821, it contained 44 houses, and 262 inhabitants.

Church. The original church of Trusthorpe is traditionally reported to have stood a quarter of a mile eastward from what is now the sea coast, and to have been destroyed by the encroachment of the sea. Some ancient bricks, bearing indubitable marks of having been formed without the aid of moulds, have been found among the ruins. Weir observes that "it is remarkable that whilst the sea has encroached considerably on this parish and the adjoining one of Mablethorpe, it has receded from the coast both to the north and south of these villages.

The present church, which is a neat structure, consists of a nave, chancel, and tower. In the walls of the porch is an inverted stone, upon which is sculptured a shield charged with a cross, together with the following inscription in Gothic characters:

"Orate pro aiabus Ricardi Wryght uxorũ ejus filiorũ et parentũ suorũ qui hac porticũ fieri fecit anno dñi MCCCCCXXII."

The interior of the church presents nothing worthy of particular notice, and we therefore pass to the tower, which is constructed of red brick, and exceedingly massive. On the south side it contains a range of stones upon which the names of several former inhabitants are engraved, and on the western side are three stones, similarly inscribed, one of which bears the date of 1606.

This living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £19. 10s. 2d. The church is dedicated to St. Peter.

Wold Division The WOLD DIVISION of the Wapentake of Calceworth contains the market town of Alford, and the villages of Beesby in the marsh, Bilsby, Claxby, Farlsthorpe, Hannah with Hagnaby, Maltby le Marsh, Markby, Rigsby with Ailby, Saleby with Thoresthorpe, Strubby with Woodthorpe, Ulceby with Forthington, Well with Mawthorpe, Willoughby with Sloothby, and Withern with Stain.

Alford. The market town of ALFORD is situated on the east side of the wolds, at the distance of about thirty-six miles eastward from Lincoln, twenty-four north-eastward from Boston, and one hundred and forty-one miles from London. Leland thus describes the appearance of this

town in his time: "XVI miles from Boston, Alforde, a meane market towne in Low Lindeseye Marsche, a ?. from the stalt. Se. The towne is all thakked and redid, and a broke cumeth by it. There is good whete and benes in most Paroches of the low Marsche, in *Lyndsey*; but little Barle as yn stiffe clay grounde.—No wood yn the low Marsche of Lindsey."*

Etymology.

Alford derives its name from an ancient ford over a stream that twice crosses the town, and consists principally of one street, about a quarter of a mile in length: the houses are in general built of brick, though occasionally intermixed, as in Leland's days, with some having thatched roofs.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Wilfrid, is constructed of soft sand-stone, the decayed parts of which being repaired with brick, gives the structure a mean appearance. It consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, a chancel, and a tower at the western extremity;† the pillars which support the nave having their capitals richly ornamented with carved foliage. In the chancel is a tomb, upon which are laid the figures in alabaster of a knight in armour, and a female, above which, against the wall, is an inscription to the memory of Sir Robert Christopher, knight, who died in 1668, and Elizabeth, his wife, who died A. D. 1667. Their only child, Elizabeth, was the wife of Bennet, Lord Sherrard, of Stapleford. On the opposite side of the chancel is an ancient tablet, but the inscription it once contained is now entirely obliterated. In the middle aisle is a stone containing the effigies of a priest beneath a canopy, and around the verge is a latin inscription to Richard de Walton, formerly a vicar of this church. Besides these memorials the church contains many others of a more modern date. The pulpit is of oak and very elaborately carved. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £10., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln.

Besides the religious edifice above noticed Alford contains places of worship for Independents, Wesleyan Methodists, and Baptists.

Grammar School.

The town possesses a richly endowed Free Grammar School which was founded in the year 1565, by Francis Spanning, of Alford, merchant. By deed dated in that year, it is stated that, for the better relief of the poor, and also for the godly and virtuous education of the youth of Alford and the neighbourhood. Francis Spanning laid the first foundation of a "Free School to teach the A B C, and also to read both English and Latin,"—and that he gave fifty pounds to be put out to interest, four-fifths of the income to be applied to the use of the schoolmaster, and one-fifth to the poor of Alford; and that he appointed ten managers of this little establishment, six of them to be Feoffees chosen out of the inhabitants and to be called the first governors of the school, the other four to be chosen out of respectable persons *in* or *near* the town, and to be called auditors.

It was subsequently augmented by a donation of thirty-five pounds from William Gubbe, of Thoresthorpe, yeoman; and in the year 1756 a charter was obtained by John Spendluffe, of Farlesthorpe, the principal benefactor to the school, and John Toothby, who were both of them auditors of the first institution. It is worded in strict conformity with the principal

* Itin. vol. vii. page 50.

† The summit of the tower commands a widely extended view of the North Sea.

 views of the original benefactors, and seems to vary only to give effect to their design and the better to fulfil their intentions in favour of the town and neighbourhood of Alford.

The charter orders, that the school shall be a "free school" for ever, for the good education and instruction of children and youth there, and in the neighbouring parts, and to be called "THE FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL OF QUEEN ELIZABETH," on the foundation of William Lord Burleigh, and Sir Thomas Cecil, knight, his son;—That there shall be one master, and one usher, or under master, for ever, and appoints ten men, inhabitants of Alford to be governors of the school.

The governors are constituted a corporate body, and are empowered to receive lands and other possessions, and to give, grant, and assign the same. And in case of death or removal, vacancies are to be supplied by the surviving governors.

The master and the ushers are to be appointed by the governors;—

Wholesome and proper statutes made by the governors and their successors, in writing, touching the preservation and disposition of the rents and revenues for the support of the school, are to be inviolably observed.

The Reverend Richard Spendley, in 1583, Peter Langton, esquire, in 1658, and Sir Robert Christopher, knight, in 1668, also contributed to the funds of this institution, which, in 1811, amounted to £192. 15s. per annum:

The gift of Mr. Spendluffe.

	£	s.	d.
Part of R. Lucas's Farm	27	0	0
Widow Lucas's Farm	96	0	0
Thackers Farm	26	0	0
Cade's Farm	4	4	0
Kirk's Farm	21	0	0
	£174	4	0

The gift of Mr. Langton.

Part of R. Lucas's Farm in Saleby .	17	0	0

The gift of Mr. Richard Spendley.

Land in Gayton, to the use of a Scholar .	1	0	0
Sir R. Christopher's annuity	5	0	0
	£197	4	0

From which deduct Mr. Spendluff's.

Out rents	£0	9	0			
Charities	4	0	0			
				4	9	0
				£192	15	0

There are two quinquennial fellowships at Magdalen College, Cambridge, for its scholars, and a scholarship of £6. 8s. 6d. per annum, at Jesus College, Cambridge, for students from Alford, Caistor, or Louth schools. The endowment left by the will of Mr. John Spendluffe, for the head master, was regularly paid till the year 1808, when a contest having arisen among the governors, about the disposal of the vicarage of Saleby, *two of their own body laying down the office of governors and becoming* CANDIDATES." The unsuccessful party then resigned their offices. Since that affair the governors have been induced to apply sixty pounds a year, out of a salary which was left exclusively to the head master, for the support of an under master, and have thrown the school open to the whole population, "who send their children, *literally, to learn their alphabet.*"*

Here is also a National School, erected in 1811, in which one hundred and thirty children of both sexes are educated. It is principally supported by the produce of an estate in Mumby, which was purchased in 1616, with a sum of money given by Mr. John Spendluffe, and conveyed to certain of the inhabitants, their heirs and assigns in trust, for the "impotent, lame, and blind people of the parish, or, for erecting a school, as may be thought best, by the largest charge-bearers towards the poor." This estate now produces upwards of £70. per annum. The school is conducted by a master and mistress.

National School.

In 1815 a district committee of the Society for the promotion of Christian Knowledge was established here, and it has, since its formation, distributed to the poor an immense number of religious publications. The Saving's Bank was established in 1817; it is open every Friday evening.

Six Alms Houses in this place were built in 1669, under the directions of the will of Sir Robert Christopher, who died in the preceding year, and who bequeathed £550. for erecting the buildings and purchasing land for the perpetual maintenance of six poor persons. His grandson, Lord Harborough, by his will, dated May 1, 1716, charges all his estates in Rigsby, with the payment of £22. per annum, for endowing the said alms-houses for ever.

Alms Houses.

In 1826 an act of Parliament was obtained for making a canal from this town to the sea, near the village of Anderby, with a basin, harbour, and piers. The extent of this canal was to be six miles and three quarters, with two locks, and the expence was estimated at £43,000. It is to be regretted that paucity of funds should have hitherto defeated so desirable an object; but as the period allowed by the act expired about six months since (Oct. 1833) we may presume the work is altogether abandoned. Had the formation of this canal been effected the navigation must have conferred great advantage on the town and neighbourhood, as for want of an easy conveyance, the market is but little frequented in consequence of the farmer's prefering the superior accommodations offered at Louth.

Canal.

Within a quarter of a mile to the south of the town is a fine medicinal spring, called Holy Well, which having been recently analyzed by an eminent London chemist, is pronounced to possess an extraordinary power of healing, particularly in scorbutic affections. A short time since a gentleman much afflicted came from a distance of nearly two hundred miles, and by frequently drinking the water, was perfectly restored to health within a month. It is to be hoped this fact will become generally known as it is of the highest importance.

Medicinal Spring.

* Carlisle's endowed Grammar Schools, Vol. 1. P.780—7.

BOOK IV. In the year 1800 a curious brass ring was found in the garden of William Carnley, Esq,. of this town, bearing the following inscription: SIGILLVM NVLLVM TALE.

Market&Fairs Alford has a market weekly on Tuesdays, and two fairs, which privileges, Camden says, it owes to Leo, Lord Wells, who obtained a grant for them from Henry VI.; but in the Magna Britannia it is asserted, that they were obtained by William Lord Welles in the time of Edward the first. The fairs are held on Whit-Tuesday, and November the eighth, annually.

According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained 304 houses, and 1506 inhabitants.

Alford confers the dignity of viscount on the family of Earl Brownlow, of Belton, near Grantham.

Beesby. BEESBY, commonly called Beesby in the Marsh, to distinguish it from another place of the same name in the Wolds, is distant about three miles northward from Alford. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a plain uninteresting edifice offering no features worthy of particular notice. The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £13. 10s. 2½d., and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821, the parish contained 26 houses, and 132 inhabitants.

Bilsby with Thurlby. BILSBY is situated at the distance of about a mile eastward from Alford, and, with the adjoining hamlet of Thurlby, contained in 1821, 83 houses and 416 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a mean edifice, and claims no particular attention. The living is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £13. 3s. 4d. Mrs. Wayet was patroness in 1826. In this parish is a school with a small endowment.

Claxby. The village of CLAXBY stands in an obscure situation, at the distance of about four miles south-westward from Alford. The manor has long been the property of the Dashwood's, of the adjoining parish of Well, and the manor house is described by Gough, as, "a dowager house for the Well family." The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small thatched building without a cemetery. The living is a discharged vicarage, united to the rectory of Well, rated in the king's books at £5. 3s. 1½d., and is in the patronage of the Dashwood family. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 17, and of inhabitants 97.

A fine spring has its source from a chalk-hill in the centre of the parish, and flows eastward. Here are also vestiges of a Roman camp, and several tumuli covered with trees.

Farlesthorpe. FARLESTHORPE is obscurely situated at the distance of about two miles south-eastward from Alford. It was formerly the seat of a family named Purley, part of whose mansion is standing, and occupied at present as a farm house. The church is a small modern structure, dedicated to St. Andrew. The living is a discharged vicarage rated in the king's books at £5. 6s. 8d., and endowed with £200. royal bounty. In 1821, the parish contained 19 houses, and 101 inhabitants.

Hannah with Hagnaby. HANNAH is a very small village, situated about three miles north-eastward from Alford, and about one mile and a half from the sea coast. The church is a small mean modern edifice, the living of which is a donative, endowed with £1400. royal bounty, and is in the patronage of J. Grant, Esq.

In this parish is the hamlet of Hagnaby, sometimes corruptly called Hornby, where, in the year 1175, a Premonstratensian abbey was founded by Herbert fil. Adlardi de Orreby, and the lady Agnes his wife, and dedicated to the then new Saint, Thomas of Canterbury.* Tanner says, here were, a little before the dissolution, nine canons, whose possessions, in the

26th Hen. VIII., were valued in the gross at £98. 8s. 4d., in net income at £97. 11s. 4d. Edmund Tofte was the last abbot, and in the thirtieth year of Hen. VIII. the estates were granted to John Freeman of London. The only remains that now mark the site of the abbey are the moats that once surrounded it.

In the year 1821, Hannah with Hagnaby contained 15 houses, and 106 inhabitants.

Maltby le Marsh.

MALTBY is situated about three miles northward from Alford. The church is a neat structure, containing in the chancel, the recumbent stone effigy of a knight clad in complete armour, traditionally reported to be one of the earls who was killed in a combat on the bridge between this parish and Mablethorpe.* The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £11. 17s. 8d. The church is dedicated to All Saints.

In 1821, this parish contained 43 houses, and 199 inhabitants.

Markby. Abbey.

The village of MARKBY is situated about two miles north-eastward from Alford, and is interesting from having been the site of a priory. Tanner calls it a priory of Black Canons and says it was built before the fifth year of king John,† by Ralph Fitz Gilbert, to the, honour of St. Peter. At the dissolution of monasteries, the possessions were valued at £130. 13s. 0½d. per annum, according to Dugdale, and £163. 17s. 6d. according to Speed, and £160. according to Leland. The reversion of the site was granted 19th March, 30th Hen. VIII., to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk.

The common seal of this monastery, representing a full figure of St. Peter crowned, with his right hand elevated, and bearing in his left hand the keys, is appendant to the acknowledgement of Supremacy in the Chapter House, Westminster. The legend, S. PRIORIS-ET. CONVENTVS. SCI. PETRI. DE. MARKEBY. Of this priory there are no remains.

Church.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, is an uninteresting building. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £300. private benefaction, and £600. royal bounty. In 1821, the parish contained 14 houses, and 94 inhabitants.

Rigsby with Ailsby.

The village of RIGSBY is situated about a mile westward from the market town of Alford, and at a short distance from the road between that place and Spilsby. The church is a small mean thatched edifice. In a niche in the chancel, is preserved a steel helmet and a short sword, which were dug up in the parish some years since. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Alford. The church is dedicated to St. James. In 1821, Rigsby, with the adjoining hamlet of Ailsby, contained 21 houses, and 107 inhabitants.

Saleby with Thoresthorpe.

SALEBY is situated about one mile and a half north-east from Alford, on the road between that place and Louth. The church is a small neat building dedicated to St. Margaret. The living is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £4., and is in the patronage of the trustees of Alford free grammar school. In 1821, the parish, including the hamlet of Thoresthorpe, contained 36 houses, and 235 inhabitants.

Strubby with Woodthorpe.

The village of STRUBBY is situated about three miles and a half north-westward from Alford, and nearly the same distance from the sea coast. The church is a mean edifice, consisting of a nave with a south aisle, and a chancel, and a wooden belfry at the western end.

* See *ante* p. 158.

† Madox, Hist. of Excheq. p. 421.

BOOK IV. At the eastern extremity of the aisle, and separated from it by screen work is a chauntry, or chapel containing a monument, inscribed to William Ballett, alderman of London, and late of Woodthorpe, who died in 1648, at the age of 99. Above the inscription are the effigies of the Alderman, his two wives, and eight children; and by the side of the monument is a tablet in memory of Charles Ballet, esquire, who died in 1703. In the south wall is a piscina. In the wall of the aisle, near the south door, is a stone, bearing the following inscription in church text :—

"Attop ye porch dor under ye stone
Lysse ye bodye & bons of Balots beryed
In ye yeyr of owre Lorde God, i v 3 i
Ye i R day of Janvary yerly to be noted
Wherfor freinds I pray you have me revivyd
In your good praers yt soner my soll may cū
Among ye hevēly cūpany to be cōfordyd
Afor yt partñal deite i ye celēstial kȳgdū
P. nte i cōmgē p'dc'e anno xxv ...."

On the floor of the chancel is a stone containing the figure of a priest, but the face is now turned downward; around it is this inscription in capitals:—HIC JACET CORPUS MAGISTRI ADE VESTRAM.

The living of Strubby is a discharged rectory, in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, rated in the king's books at £4. 13s. 4d., and endowed with £200. royal bounty. The church is dedicated to St. Oswald.

The hamlet of Woodthorpe, which adjoins Strubby on the south, contains an ancient mansion, surrounded by a moat, which was once the seat of the Balletts, above mentioned; near the house is a remarkably large and ancient oak tree. In 1821, Strubby with Woodthorpe contained 45 houses, and 255 inhabitants.

Ulceby. ULCEBY is distant about three miles and a half south-westward from Alford, and near the turnpike road from Louth to Spilsby. The church is a modern structure, dedicated to All Saints. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £9. 16s. 8d. Here is also a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. According to the parliamentary returns of 1821, this parish, with its hamlet of Forthington, contained 35 houses, and 214 inhabitants.

The Bull's Head, a lofty hill in the parish of Ulceby, is a noted land-mark, and frequently of great service to navigators.

Well with Mawthorpe. The village of WELL is delightfully situated in a romantic valley, at the distance of about two miles south-westward from Alford. It contains a mansion belonging to the Dashwood family, surrounded by extensive plantations. The manor of this place is said to have been held at the time of the conquest by Richard de Wells, by the service of being baker to the king.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, has been rebuilt in the form of an elegant Grecian temple, bearing a striking resemblance to St. Paul's Covent Garden. The living is a discharged rectory, with the vicarage of Claxby united, and is in the patronage of B. Dash-

wood, esq. The living of Well is rated in the king's books at £7. 2s. 3½d. CHAP. V.

Near this place, in 1725 two urns, containing six hundred Roman coins were found; in the neighbourhood are three celtic barrows, contiguous to each other. From the eminences in the vicinity extensive prospects over the level lands and marshes to the sea, are obtained through various openings in the woods.

In 1821, this parish including the chapelry of Derthorpe and the township of Mawthorpe, contained 19 houses, and 135 inhabitants.

Willoughby with Sloothby.

WILLOUGHBY is a considerable village, situated about three miles and a half south-eastward from Alford. The church is a spacious structure, consisting of a nave with north and south aisles, a chancel, and a tower at the west end. In the floor is a stone with a latin inscription, in black letter, round its verge, to the memory of Gilbert West, who died in 1404. On another stone is sculptured, in bass relief, the bust of a man, having his hands joined in an attitude of supplication. The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £39. 10s. 2½d. and is in the patronage of Lord Gwydir. The church is dedicated to St. Helen. In the village there is also a place of worship for the Wesleyan Methodist.

The Reverend Anthony Barnes, in 1728 bequeathed certain land now producing more than £25 per annum for teaching and apprenticing poor children. According to the parliamentary returns of 1821, this parish, with the hamlet of Sloothby, contained 108 houses, and 514 inhabitants.

Captain John Smith

This village gave birth to John Smith, commonly called Captain John Smith. He flourished in the reign of Elizabeth and James I, and is distinguished by the number and singularity of his adventures and travels. In the war in Hungary, about 1602, he is said to have overcome three Turks successively in single combat, and to have cut off their heads, for which exploit, Sigismond, Duke of Transylvania, under whom he served, gave him his picture set in gold, with a pension of 300 ducats, and allowed him to bear the Turks heads in his arms. He afterwards went to America, where he was taken prisoner by the Indians from whom he found means to escape. He had subsequently a considerable share in reducing new England. He died June 21st, 1631. He is author of a "History of New England, Virginia, and the Summer Islands;" "New England's Trials;" "Travels in Europe, &c."

Withern with Stain.

WITHERN is a considerable village, situated about five miles north-westward from Alford, on the turnpike road between that place and Louth. This place was formerly the seat of the Fitzwilliam's who had extensive possessions in this parish and the adjoining hamlet of of Stain, the greater part of which were sold to ransom an heir of the estates, who had been taken away captive by the crew of a French vessel.* A large square moated area, called the Castle Hill, is still pointed out as the site on which the residence of the Fitzwilliam's stood.

Church.

The church is a modern erection, and contains a tablet commemorative of Lister Fitzwilliam Esquire, who died in 1766, and of Mary his wife who died in 1749. The living is a rectory rated in the king's books at £18. 10s. 2½d. The church is dedicated to St. Margaret. Here is also a commodious place of worship for that class of dissenters denominated Wesleyans.

George Stovins, in 1726, bequeathed £100 pounds, the interest of which, with that of

* See ante, page 154.

BOOK IV. £50, previously given by the Reverend William Jones, is applied for teaching and partly clothing poor children belonging to the parish.

In 1821, Withern, together with the hamlet of Stain contained 54 houses and 343 inhabitants.

The Hundred of Hill. THE HUNDRED OF HILL, which is situated on the wolds, to the east of the soke of Horncastle, and southward of the hundred of Louth Eske, contains the villages of Ashby Puerorum, Aswardby, Bag Enderby, Brinkhill, Claxby, Pluckacre, Fulletby, Greetham, Hagworthingham, Hammeringham, Harrington, Lambton, South Ormesby, Oxcomb, Salmonby, Saucethorpe, Scrafield, Somersby, Tetford, Walmesgate, Winceby, and Worlaby.

Ashby Puerorum. The village of ASHBY PUERORUM, so called from an estate in the parish which was bequeathed to the singing boys in Lincoln cathedral, is situated at the distance of about four miles north-eastward from Horncastle, on the road between that place and Alford. The manor for a long series of years formed part of the possessions of the Wentworths, earls of Strafford, from whom it ultimately descended to a person of the name of Totton.

Church. The church, which is a small structure dedicated to St Andrew, consists of a nave, chancel, side aisles, and a massive stone tower at the west end, the angles of which are guarded by buttresses, each of which is surmounted by a grotesque head now much defaced by time and exposure to the weather. In the floor of the chancel, is a stone on which is sculptured the figure of a man beneath a canopy; his head and hands, a cup on his breast, and an inscription around him were originally of brass, but the cavities which contained them are all that at present remain. The chancel also contains some brasses in memory of the Littlebury family, a branch of which was in the reign of Henry the eighth, seated at Stainsby, a hamlet belonging to this parish. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at £6. 3s. 2d., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln.

Antiquities. On the 26th of October, 1794, a labourer who was cutting a ditch in this parish, discovered at the depth of three feet below the surface of the earth, a Roman sepulchre, consisting of a stone chest, in which was deposited an urn of strong glass, well manufactured, but of a greenish hue; the chest was of free-stone, such as is found in abundance on Lincoln heath. When found it was perfect in all respects, and had not suffered any of that decay which generally renders the surface of Roman glass of a pearly or opaline hue; for the surface was as smooth and firm as if it had newly come from the fire. This receptacle was nearly filled with small pieces of bone, many of which, from the effects of ignition, were white through their whole substance, and among the fragments was a small lacrymatory of very thin and very green glass; it had probably been broken in consequence of the curiosity of the finder, as he acknowledged his having poured out the contents of the urn upon the grass in hopes of meeting with money, before he took it to his employer.

The circumstances attending this sepulture clearly prove it to have been Roman. It is, however, singular that the place chosen for depositing the remains of the deceased was not, as was customary with that people, near to a highway, and that it does not appear to have been the burial place even of a family; for, although the trench in which the chest was found has been cut quite across the field, no traces of a body having been buried in any other part of it were observed.

Horncastle, (the *Banovallum* of Stukeley) where evident remains of Roman buildings are still left, is the nearest Roman station. No traces of that people have been observed nearer to the place where the urn was found, except that a few coins of brass or copper, dug up some years previously in an orchard at Stainby, are said to have been Roman, but these were not preserved, it must remain doubtful whether they were so or not.

The neighbourhood is pleasant in the extreme; a dry sandy soil moderately fertile, hills gradually rising in slopes, and commanding from their tops, an extensive and varied prospect, and brisk rills of transparent water running along the bottom of almost every valley, render it a place peculiarly adapted for the situation of a country house. As no people have shewn more taste in choosing agreeable spots for the situation of their villas than the Romans have done, it is far from improbable that the site of an ancient Roman villa will some time be discovered not far from the field where this sepulture was found.*

In 1821, Ashby Puerorum, with the hamlet of Stainsby, and the extra parochial liberty of Holbeck, contained 22 houses, and 117 inhabitants.

Aswardby. ASWARDBY is a small village about eight miles eastward from Horncastle and four miles north-westward from Spilsby. It contains the seat of Richard Brackenbury esq., wherein is preserved a small but excellent collection of paintings by the old masters. The church dedicated to St. Helen, is a small uninteresting edifice. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £7. 9s. 4½d. Patron, R. Brackenbury, esq. In 1821 the number of houses in this parish was 15, and of inhabitants 80.

Bag Enderby. The village of BAG ENDERBY, situated about five miles and a half north-westward from Spilsby, and seven miles eastward from Horncastle, on the road between that town and Alford, was anciently the seat of a family named Enderby. It subsequently became the residence of a part of the Burton family, but their mansion is demolished.

Church. The church is a neat structure, consisting of a tower, nave, and chancel, the windows of which were once enriched with stained glass, fragments of which are remaining. In the floor of the nave is a brass plate commemorative of Albini de Enderby, who built the church and tower; the inscription is as follows:

"Orate pro anima Albini de Enderby, qui fecit fieri istam Eccliam cum campanili, qui obiit in Vigilia Scī Matthiæ Apti, Ano, Dni 1407."

Another brass plate in the chancel contains the following inscription in Norman French to Thomas Enderby and Agnes his wife, without any date:

"Thomas Enderby, & Agnes sa femme giscunt ycy p'. Dieux de lour almes p' sa grace eyt mercy."

Another contains a memorial of John Gedney, esquire, and Isabella his wife, thus inscribed:

"Here lyeth John Gedney, Esq., and Isabell his wife, daughter of Edward Grantham, of Durham. John died Ano. 1533; Isabell died 1536."

* Archæologia, vol. xii, p. 96. The article was communicated by Sir Joseph Banks, Bart.

BOOK IV. Against the north wall of the chancel is a monument containing the figures of a man in armour with his wife kneeling at a desk; behind them are their two sons and two daughters. Above them is a shield containing the arms of Gedney, Enderby, and Skipwith, and beneath them this inscription:

"Here lyeth Andrew Gedney Esq. and Dorothy his wife. They had ishew Richard, John, Mary, and Katherine. Dorothy died 7 Junii 1591, and Andrew died ...."

Mr. Holles, who visited this church about the year 1640, has noticed besides several armorial bearings, "the picture of St. Thomas a'Becket receaving woundes from three knights, there pictured thrusting their swordes into him. On the other side the decollation of some Legendary saint." Under this was an inscription in gothic letters.*

Against the south wall of the chancel is a marble tablet in memory of William Langhorne Burton, esq , who died in 1739, and Ann his wife, who died in 1758.

The font, which is octagonal, and extremely curious, is ornamented with rude sculpture as follows: 1. A hart couchant regardant. 2. A toothed wheel. 3. A crown. 4. A person playing on a cittern. 5. two spears in saltire, in base of a phæon. 6. The virgin, with Christ taken from the cross in her lap. 7. A cross, encircled with a crown of thorns. 8. A plain escutcheon.

The living is a discharged rectory valued in the King's books at £6. 18s. 1½. The church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

In 1821, the parish of Bag Enderby contained 18 houses and 80 inhabitants.

Brinkhill. BRINKHILL is situted about ten miles north-eastward from Horncastle, and about six miles and a half north-westward from Spilsby. The church is a plain unostentatious edifice, presenting no features that claim attention. In the church-yard, however, is a stone shaft, terminated by an embattled coronal, and which was once surmounted by a cross. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £8. The church is dedicated to St. Philip.

In a stratum of blue clay near the church are found veins of barren marcasite, a great quantity of which, after a heavy shower of rain, is usually washed down by a rill that runs near. This, from its bright yellow colour has obtained the appellation of *Brinkhill Gold*, and which the people once ignorantly supposed to be that precious metal. Under this impression, Mr. Gough says, "some of it was sent to London about forty years ago." This parish, in 1821, contained 18 houses, and 119 inhabitants.

Claxby Pluckacre. CLAXBY PLUCKACRE occupies an obscure situation at the distance of about five miles south-eastward from Horncastle. The church is demolished, and the inhabitants use that of the adjoining parish of Moorby. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £6. 10s. 10d. The church was dedicated to St. Andrew. In 1821, the village contained only 4 houses, and 36 inhabitants.

Fulletby. FULLETBY, like the last mentioned village, stands in an obscure situation, about three miles and a half north-eastward from Horncastle. The church, which is a very mean edifice,

* These "pictures" and the stained glass were probably destroyed during the reign of fanaticism that followed the civil wars.—*Editor.*

is dedicated to St. Andrew. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £21. 2s, 8½d. According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained 41 houses, and 254 inhabitants.

Greetham.

The village of **Greetham** is situated at the distance of about three miles north-eastward from Horncastle, on the road between that town and Alford. In the parish is an ancient tumulus. The church is a small uninteresting edifice without any claims to particular notice. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £10. 19s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. The church is dedicated to All Saints.

In 1821, the parish, which is a parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster, contained 22 houses, and 148 inhabitants.

Hagworthingham.

Hagworthingham is situated on the road between Horncastle and Spilsby, at the distance of about six miles eastward from the former place, and four miles and a half westward from the latter. The church, which is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a small mean edifice utterly destitute of interest.* The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £14. 10s. 5d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Ely. In 1821, the parish contained 105 houses, and 533 inhabitants.

Hammeringham.

The village of **Hammeringham** is situated at the distance of about four miles eastward from Horncastle. The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, contains nothing worthy of particular notice except the font, which is ancient, and very curiously carved. The living is a discharged rectory with that of Scrayfield united, and is rated in the king's books at £8. 14s. 2d.

According to the population returns of 1821, this parish at that period contained 30 houses, and 149 inhabitants.

Harrington.

The village of **Harrington** is situated about eight miles eastward from Horncastle, four miles and a half north-west from Spilsby, and about six miles westward from Alford, on the road between these two latter towns. Near this place was formerly the residence of the Coppuldikes, which afterwards became the seat of the Amscotts family; and subsequently by marriage with a descendant of the last named family it passed to a gentleman named Cracroft. The mansion, which is still in existence, possesses no architectural beauty.

The Copledyke family becoming extinct the estate was sold to Vincent Amcotts, esq. The last of the Amcotts family was Charles Amcotts, esq., M. P. for Boston. His sister married Wharton Emerson, esq., whose daughter married John Ingilby, (created a baronet in 1781,) son of Sir John Ingilby, bart. The estate now belongs to the Ingilby family. John Copledyke, of Harrington, esq., was high sheriff of the county of Lincoln in 1391; sir John Copledyke, knight, 1400; William Copledyke, esq., 1488; sir John Copledyke, knight, 1548; John Copledyke, esq., 1567.

Church.

The church is a small edifice, considerably modernized, and consisting of a nave, chancel, and a tower at the western end. Under a low arch in the south wall of the chancel is a

* "In the chancel is this inscription, "Hic iacet .... Redilston quondam Rector istius Ecclesiæ." "On a gravestone of blue marble in ye body of ye church is pourtrayed in brasse one in compleate armour, bearing upon ye manches of his coate of armes on either side, 2 crescents. Between his feet a right hand couped. The rest is defaced."—*Harl. MSS. No.* 6829.

BOOK IV. tomb, on which is a collossal figure of a knight in chain armour, he lies cross legged, his shield, an immense one, covering his left side, his surcoat of arms loose, and at his feet is a bow. Against the south wall of the chancel is a tomb, over which are the effigies of a man in armour, and a lady, with this inscription beneath:

"Here lyeth John Copledike, Esq., sonne & heire of John Copledike, Knt., late of Harrington, deceased, who died 4to Aprilis, 1585, & Anne Etton, his wife, who died 10 o Julii Año 1582."

Above this are his arms, quarterings, and crest, and about the tomb are several shields, bearing the arms of the families of Coppuldike, Harrington, Robeby, &c.

Against the opposite wall of the chancel is another tomb, on which are the figures in alabaster, of a man and his wife, kneeling at a desk; the male figure in complete armour, parcel gilt, and the female in black; their hands elevated in token of prayer. Behind them are the figures of their son and daughter, and beneath the following inscription:

"Here lyeth ye body of Francis Copledike, Esq., brother, & next heyre of John Copledike, Esq.; which John Copuldike was son and heyre of John Copuldike of Harrington, in the county of Lincoln; wch foresaid Francis died ye 24th of December 1599; wch foresaid Francis married Elizabeth, one of ye daughters of Lyonel Reresby of Tryborgh, in the county of York, Esq., & with hir he had one son, & a daughter, which died in their infancy.

A tablet against the wall (embellished with the arms of *Copledyke* impaling *Ellis*, and *Copledyke* impaling *Enderby*, &c., is thus inscribed:

"Pretious to the memory of Thos. Copledyke, late of Harrington, in the county of Lincoln, esq., son of Thos. Copledyke, third brother of John Copledyke, Esq. He married 1st Martha, the daughter of Sir William Ellis of Lnicoln. Mary, his second wife and executrix, the daughter of Richard Enderby, of Metheringham, in the county of Lincoln. He deceased An. Dom. 1658, 4th of September, aged 72."

On the same is a handsome marble sarcophagus inscribed to Charles Amcotts, esq., who died in 1777; and above it is a tablet in memory of Anna Maria, wife of Sir Wharton Amcotts, who died in 1800.*

In the south wall of the chancel is a piscina. The font is octagonal, each face being sculptured with the arms of the Coppuldykes, and the various quarterings.

The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £9. 16s. 10½d. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. In 1821, the parish of Harrington contained 11 houses, and 105 inhabitants.

* Besides these monuments Gervase Holles has described these two following:

Upon a fayre blew marble in ye middle of ye Quire, cut in Brasse;

"Orate pro anima Iohis Copuldike armigeri, qui obiit 15 o die Martii Ao Dni. 1480, ac pro anima Margarete nuper uxis ejus, quæ obiit .... die .... Ao Dni .... quorum animabus p' pitietur Deus, Amen."

The armes of this monument defaced, only there appeares on a cheife endented, 3 crosses Tau.—Thurtand.

At ye lower end of the Quire in Brasse, set in the wall:

"Here lyeth Sr John Copledike, Kt., late of Harrington, deceased: he died the twelfth of December 1557; & Elizabeth Littlebury, his wife, who died the 12th of May 1552."

Their pictures (his in compleat armour) & their armes, above all, in brasse.—*Harl. MSS. No.* 6829. p. 167.

CHAP. V.

Langton.

LANGTON, called also from its situation Langton by Spilsby, is distant about four miles north-westward from that town. The manor has long been in the possession of the ancient family of the Langtons, who derive their name from the parish. The family mansion was destroyed by fire in the reign of Hen. VI., and another was erected about the time of Elizabeth, or in the early part of the reign of James I., this was, however, demolished in the year 1822, and a modern dwelling constructed at a little distance from its site.

Church.

The church is a neat modern structure, containing no monuments or inscriptions worthy of particular notice. Gervase Holles, however, an indefatigable antiquary, visited the ancient edifice in the early part of the seventeenth century, and left the following notes, which we have transcribed from his original MSS.

"Ecclesia sanctorum Petri & Pauli Apostolorum
In Insulæ Borealis
Fenestra
Falconem tibi do pia Virgo mei memor esto.
Effigies Viri gestantis Falconem.
Tumulus lapideus.

Hic jacet Elizabetha Vxor Iohis Langton, Arm. & filia Willi Quadring, Arm. quæ obiit 4 o die Maii Año Dñi 1524.

Fenestra australis.
Effigies Scorum Petri & Pauli Apostolorum.
A plain Cross.

QUARTERLY. (Sa. & Arg.) a bend (Or) . . . . Langton.

EMPALED. { 3 Floures de Lize, in cheife a Lion passant.
A Fesse nebule between 3 roses.

In Insulæ Boreali.

Hic jacet Ricus Ligh generosus Servus Dñi. Regis Hen. 8 ....

Hic jacet Johannes Wortes, Rector istius Ecclesiæ qui obiit 6 o die Septembr. Año 1582." *

The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £10. 12s. 3½d. The patronage is in the Langton family. In 1821, this village contained 26 houses, and 176 inhabitants.

Barrows.

On a hill, at a small distance from the village, are three barrows, known by the name of the *Spellow Hills*, or *Hills of the slain*. They are probably Saxon by their name, and are situated on a hill composed of chalk, but the field being under a constant state of tillage, has tended to alter their original form.† Upon opening one of them a few years since it was ascertained to contain a large quantity of human bones.

Stephen Langton.

This village is celebrated as having been the birth place of three distinguished characters. The first, STEPHEN LANGTON, a cardinal of the Romish church, and archbishop of Canter-

* *Harl. MSS. No.* 6829, fol. 243.

† Beauties of England and Wales. Vol. 9. p. 711.

BOOK IV. bury, in the reign of king John, which monarch's disputes with the papal ruler originated in his obstinate rejection of this prelate's appointment. Though by birth Langton was an Englishman, he received his education in the French metropolis. In the university belonging to that city he had risen gradually through various subordinate offices to the chancellorship, when, on going to Rome, the learning and abilities which had hitherto facilitated his advancement, raised him so high in the favour of Pope Innocent the third, that the pontiff in 1207 not only elevated him to the purple, but presented him to the vacant primacy of all England, respecting the disposal of which the king was then at variance with the monks of Canterbury. This appointment of Langton produced the rupture between the pontiff and king John, and led to the compulsive conduct of the barons, which so happily terminated in obtaining, for the people of England that revered bulwark of their liberties, "MAGNA CHARTA." In defiance of the menaces with which he was threatened, John refused to confirm the nomination, seized on the temporalities of the see, and ordered the refractory monks to quit the kingdom. A sentence of excommunication, not only upon himself, but upon his whole realm, was the consequence; nor was it removed till the weak and terror stricken monarch, aroused by the warlike preparations of France, and the now general disaffection of his subjects, gave up that, and every other point in dispute, and thus reconciled himself with the church. Langton immediately took undisputed possession of his diocese, in 1213, but he does not appear to have acted towards the Romish church with that degree of subserviency which was in all probability expected from him. On the contrary, he exhibited himself as a strenuous defender of the privileges of the English church, and much annoyed his antagonists by the ability with which he carried on the contest. His death took place in 1228. Many of his works, of which Bale and Tanner supply a list, have been printed.

Dr. William Langton.

DR. WILLIAM LANGTON, president of Magdalene College, Oxford, in the time of James the first, was born in this village, and died in the year 1626.

Bennet Langton esq.

The same place also gave birth to BENNET LANGTON, ESQ., whose name is associated with that of the justly celebrated Dr. Samuel Johnson, both by epistolatory and literary productions.

South Ormesby.

SOUTH ORMESBY is delightfully situated at the distance of about eight miles north-westward from Spilsby, the same distance north-eastward from Horncastle, and about six westward from Alford. In this village was formerly a seat belonging to the Skipwiths, the ancestor of whom, Sir William Skipwith acquired the estate in the reign of Edward III, by marriage with the daughter of sir Simon de Ormesby, knight. During the commonwealth, it was sold to the Massingberds, whose mansion stands in a well wooded park adjacent.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Leonard, is an interesting structure, consisting of a tower nave, chancel, and a small chapel or chauntry on the north side. On a gravestone, containing the effigies in brass of sir William Skipwith, is the following inscription:

"Orate pro animabus Willhelmi Skipwith, Militis, & Agnetis vxis eius, qui quidem Willũs obiit Anno Dñi. 1485."

Here are also two modern tablets in memory of the Massingberd family. The living is a rectory, with that of Kettlesby, with which the vicarage of Calceby, and the rectory of Driby, were united in 1771, and is valued in the king's books at £11. 13s. 11½d. The patronage is in C. B. Massingberd, esq.

In this village are the remains of an ancient encampment covering nearly three acres of ground. It is situated on the brow of a steep hill, which forms an oblique side. The other side is straight, and the ends square; within the area are three small artificial mounts. Mr. Drake supposes this to have been a Roman work, several Roman coins, chiefly of the emperor Constantine, have been found in and near it.* CHAP. V. Ancient encampment.

Adjoining to this village, and included in the parish, is the hamlet of Kettlesby or Ketesby, which formerly possessed a church, and which is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster.†

In 1821 the parish contained 36 houses, and 261 inhabitants.

OXCOMB, a small depopulated village, occupies an obscure situation at the distance of about six miles north eastward from Horncastle. The church dedicated to All Saints, is a small uninteresting edifice. The living is a discharged rectory valued in the king's books at £6. 15s. 7½, endowed with £200 royal bounty. B. Grant, esq. was patron in 1821. Forty-six shillings, scarcely injured by time, of the early part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, were discovered in a small silver box, by a man while ploughing in a piece of ground, near this village in April 1818. Oxcomb.

According to the population returns of 1821 it appears that the village of Oxcomb contained only 5 houses and 28 inhabitants.

SALMONBY is distant about five miles and a half north-eastward from Horncastle, and contained in 1821 14 houses, and 89 inhabitants. The church is a small edifice, containing nothing worthy of particular observation except the windows which are enriched with excellent tracery. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £5 10s. 2½. The church is dedicated to St. Margaret. Salmonby.

Edward Richardson, in 1714, bequeathed land for teaching poor children of the parishes of Salmonby and Tetford.

In the moory grounds in this parish are found a pulverulent blue phosphate of iron, and an earthy oxide of iron, and near the spot where these are found is a chalybeate spring, the water of which is of the same nature as that of Tunbridge, but stronger.*

The village of SAUCETHORPE is situated on the road that leads from Horncastle to Burgh in the Marsh, and is at the distance of about three miles north-westward from Spilsby. The church, which is dedicated to St. Andrew, contains nothing that affords interest.† In 1821 the number of houses in this parish was 28, and of inhabitants 167. Saucethorpe.

SCRAYFIELD is a very diminutive village containing only one farm house and two or three cottages. The church is destroyed, and the inhabitants make use of that in the neighbouring parish of Hammeringham. The living is a discharged rectory united to that of Hammeringham, and is rated in the king's books at £4. 19s. 4½. Scrayfield.

* Beauties of England and Wales, vol. 9. p. 714.

† Gervase Holles, speaking of this hamlet, says "Ketelsby in Parochia de Ormesby. Dñi Magnil, Willms Skipwith Armig. *Non ibi Ecclesia.*" Harl. MSS. 6829. fol. 87.

‡ Weir's Lincolnshire, p. 346.

§ Gervase Holles mentions, "In a window the face of a woman like a Votiess, underneath her name: AMABILLA CHARNELLS."

BOOK IV.

Somersby. SOMERSBY is an agreeable village situated at the distance of about six miles eastward from Horncastle. The manor which comprises the entire parish, has been for a long series of years the property of a family named Burton.

Church. The church is a small neat edifice, dedicated to St, Margaret, and consists of a tower, nave, and chancel. In the wall at the end of the chancel is a brass plate, on which is sculptured the figure of a person full robed, and kneeling on a cushion, before a reading desk; in the sinister upper corner is a shield containing arms, and under the figure this inscription:

"Here lyeth GEORGE LITTLEBY of Somersby, seventh sonne of Thomas Littlebury of Stainsbie, Esq. who died the 13 daye of Octob., in ye yere of our Lord 1612, being abovt the age of 73

The shield contains the following arms: 1. Two lioncels statant guardant in pale. 2. Quarterly, 1 and 4, Barry of 6; 2 and 3 a bend. 3. Three shackle bolts. 4. A mullet between three crescents, a dexter canton. On the fesse point a rose of difference.

Against the screen between the nave and the chancel is a marble tablet, surmounted by a shield containing the arms of Burton: Sable a chevron argent, between three owls argent, ducally crowned Or; the crest, an owl argent, crowned as before. Beneath the arms is this inscription.

"Here lieth Mrs. Kath. Burton, Daughter of Richard Langhorne, Esq. she died August 25th A. D. 1742, also Robert Burton, Esq., Citizen of London, Husband of the said Mrs. Catherine Burton. He died Nov, 30. 1753.

In the churchyard, near the porch on the south side of the edifice, is an elegant stone cross, which having escaped both the ravages of time, and the destruction of the Puritans, remains in so perfect a state as to be justly esteemed of unrivalled excellence and beauty. The extreme height of it, including the base, is fifteen feet. The shaft is octagonal, and decorated with a capital surrounded by a coronal of small embattlements. The cross, with its pediment, which rises from this, is ornamented on the south face with the representation of our Saviour's crucifixion and on the north side with that of the virgin and child.

At this period (October 1833) the church is undergoing very important and substantial repairs; the chancel, which is nearly completed, affords pleasing evidences of the taste with which the work has been superintended. In consequence of the very insecure state of the tower a great part of it has been pulled down, and the new work is already in a state of forwardness; it is to be regretted, however, that it has been found neccessary to remove a fine gothic window in its western face and to substitute one of modern and most barbarous taste.

The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the kings books at £4. 16s. 5½.

In a woody dell near the village is a spring, flowing from a rock, called Holy-well, but the name of the saint to whom it was dedicated has not been preserved.

In the year 1821, the parish of Somersby contained 12 houses, and 96 inhabitants.

Tetford. TETFORD is a considerable and rapidly increasing village, situated at the distance of about six miles north-west from Horncastle. In the neighbourhood are traces of a very ancient and extensive encampment, which is generally supposed to have been constructed at the period of the conflicts between the early Britons and the Saxons: it being related that Horsa, the Saxon general, and brother of Hengist, was defeated at this place in an engagement with the Britons under the command of Raengeires. Leland, whose assertions may generally be

received with confidence, says "The Britons fought with the Saxons in Vortimers (Vortiger's son) time at Tetforde, in Lindsey, wher Rauengeire and Hors met to gether."* CHAP. V.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary is a neat structure, but possessing little that claims particular attention. It has however lately received an addition of one hundred and ten sittings, of which sixty are free, the Incorporated society for the enlargement of churches and chapels having granted £40, towards defraying the expence. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £5. 0s. 10d. Church.

In this village is also a place of worship for that class of dissenters termed Wesleyan Methodists.

In 1821 the village of Tetford contained 111 houses and 351 inhabitants the number of which since that period has considerably increased, and by the last census was ascertained to contain 690 inhabitants, so that they may fairly be conjectured to exceed 700 at the present day.

A convivial society called the *Tetford Club* used formerly to hold its periodical meetings at an inn in this village. Amongst the members of this society were enrolled all the neighbouring gentry, together with many most respectable persons residing in more distant parts of the county. One of the members, Langhorne Burton esq., celebrated the association in the following spirited lines, published in 1772, which poem though rather lengthy we give entire as affording an honourable testimony of the author's poetic genius. Tetford Club.

Tetford Club.

Sick of the jilting city's siren strains,
Her shad'wy pleasures, and substantial pains,
Flatt'ry's false face, and faction's selfish strife,
And all the guilty tracks of crowded life,
To seats of rural ease and happier climes,
The muse indignant consecrates her rhymes,
A theme, before untouch'd demands her praise,
The subject honest, honest be her lays.
Far to the north were Lindsey props the skys,
Embosom'd in her mountains Tetford lies,
Whose rustic bowers present secure retreats,
From Winter rigours, and from Summer heats,
Where chaste simplicity through every part,
Walks unattir'd and unseduc'd by art.
What! though no proud historic annals trace
Statesmen or heroes from this humble place,
What! though no legendary tales have given
Martyrs or monk-made saints from hence to heaven,

* Leland's Collect. vol. ii. p. 508.

Full many a modern merit she displays,
And white, as are her hills, now rise her days.
Oft as the moon repairs her ample light,
The neighbours here in village joys unite,
Squires without pride, and lawyers without tricks,
Peasants and parsons undistinguish'd mix,
Equal as nature first made man they meet,
And all the foppish forms of rank forget;
The foggy tradesman leaves his shop to care,
And here imbibes the luxury of air,
Stern justice smiles from gout and quorum free
And physic gives advice without a fee.
No flinty plunderer gains admittance here,
Mark'd by the poor man's curse, and widow's tear,
No lech'rous priest dare here intrude his head,
Rank from the sweat of an adult'rous bed.
Ye gamesters, as unfeeling as your dice,
Ye slaves of ev'ry fashionable vice;
Avaunt! and to the gay Pantheon go,
Or hail the mother strumpet of Soho;
With macaronies midnight orgies keep,
And at the shrine of fortune, murder sleep;
Honour and freedom constitutes our plan,
And merit only ballots in the man.

To celebrate each worthy of this train,
The task were endless, and the labour vain,
Let chance select, and faithful is the page,
Some bright examples for a future age.

High o'er the rest the presidential chair,
Claims the first efforts of the poet's care,
Where nice unbiass'd conduct, steady truth,
And management impartial mark the youth,
Whose voice of eloquence, and soul of fire,
Direct each movement, and the whole inspire;
Concord his wish, good fellowship his aim,
Justice and TATLOCK still are found the same.
Blush, proud St. Stephen's, blush, and let the tale
Teach other chairs to hold a fairer scale.

Thou too, my FOWLER, here must have a place,
Worth in thy breast, good humour in thy face,
Whose Pæans animate the club, and prove
Young Pan the jolly delegate of Jove.

While love of neighbourhood and social mirth,

And hospitality yet dwell on earth,
While amity's the theme of any tongue,
Say, can the Patron's praise remain unsung? *
Firm as a rock of adamantine mold,
Of try'd and ancient faith the next behold; †
In councils senatorial early train'd
Still had he there the public weal maintain'd,
But virtue too unpliant for the times,
And honest ign'rance of our modish crimes,
Spurn'd the smooth guilt, and venal arts of slaves,
And left the house to madmen, fools, and knaves.
His patriot zeal led forth our armed swains
To Cambrian hills and Cantium's distant plains.
Saw you the hero when on Mersey's sands
In bold array he form'd the brother bands? ‡
Their country's cause each beating bosom fir'd
Inflamed their souls, their heated brains inspir'd;
To arms! to arms! th' impatient warriors cry'd,
To arms! to arms! the rocks and hills reply'd,
Appall'd Thurot, till then a victor name,
Fled at the sound, and flying own'd his shame.
Sunk in his haram, Bourbon saw with dread
His lilies blasted, and his angels fled, §
Not all his fair sultanas could assuage
The marrowless old monarch's frantic rage;
The fierce militia born in elder days,
Compeers in Henry's and each Edward's praise,
Rush'd on his mind; again he view'd advance
Bedford's bright helmet, Talbot's bloody lance,
England again prevailed, and subjugated France.
Let mercenary troops, the spawn of stews,
Pour the full torrent of their foul abuse,
The spirit, which they can't attain, upbraid,
Envy attends on merit like her shade.
Perish my laurels, and let ten-fold lead
Wrap the bald temples of this brainless head,

* William Burrell Massingberd, esquire, of Ormesby.

† Robert Vyner, esquire, M.P. for the county of Lincoln, and colonel of the first Lincolnshire Militia.

‡ The two Lincolnshire regiments.

§ Lilies are quartered in the French arms, which are supported by angels.

BOOK IV.

When my base soul contemns our guardian pow'r
Britannia's bulwark in her dang'rous hour.
Wanders the muse on wild digressive wing,
Enamour'd of the men she must not sing?
O! could she mount to yon meridian blaze,
And wrest a sunbeam to pourtray their praise,
Like bold Prometheus grasp celestial light,
The theft were glorious and well paid the flight.
Here the bold youth, who tracts unknown explor'd,
Join'd in the humour of the festive board,
Explained each wonder of antarctic skies,
How fainter suns and paler planets rise,
And stranger much to England's sons he told
Of isles untainted with the lust of gold.*
His greatly-daring, heav'n-directed mind
Leaves vulgar fears and earthly cares behind,
Dangers and toils in vain oppose his course,
His frame endures, his soul enjoys their force.
Ease, pleasure, wealth, with unavailing arms,
Spread all their nets, and open all their charms,
Courts and their smiling king as little move
A mother's tears, or all-subduing love;
Thou Nature art his goddess, thy commands
Guide him e'en now perhaps, through Arctic lands,
There to his philosophic view disclose
The fiery Hecla 'midst eternal snows.
Give him, auspicious pow'rs, where'er he sails,
Seas without rocks, and without tempests gales;
Return the wand'rer, all his labours o'er,
Safe to the comforts of his native shore.
Forgive ye gay, th' involuntary tear
Quick gushing from my breast at LISTER's bier,
Snatch'd from his friends in life's meridian bloom:—
From youth how short the passage to the tomb!
Ah! what avails that Temp'rance mourns his fall,
That Piety, and Truth uphold the pall,
That time confesses his mistaken sweep.
And kindred angels waft from Heav'n to weep!
Was it for this Mancunium rich supply'd
The first of blessings, an endearing bride?
For him the prattling little ones no more
Shall climb the knee to sing their infant lore;

* The late Sir Joseph Banks says the inhabitants of Otaheita prefer old iron nails to gold.

No more for him the wife's attractive smile,
No more the pleasure of connubial toil.
Hark! from his vault a voice proclaims aloud,
The sum of worldly treasures is a shroud.
Oblivion's mantle ever veil my name,
If I forget the swarthy Chaplain's fame *
Whose soul belies the colour of his skin,
Though black without, yet all is fair within
Who daily practises what others preach,
His life th' example which his doctrines teach,
His charity not Albion could contain,
Wide she expanded o'er th' Atlantic main
And helpless hopeless naked orphans bore,
From bleak America's inclement shore,
Their wants with all a father's fondness fed,
And taught the path which he had trod, to tread.
O thou! whom vanity's false light misleads,
Or mad Ambition's comet-glaring deeds,
If scenes of innocence and peace can tire,
If blended guilt and glory thou admire,
Survey with me these plenty-clothed fields,
And learn the lesson which the prospect yields,
Though cloth d with plenty now, yet once the waste
Of hostile fury ev'ry charm defac'd.
Here Rome's imperial eagle fix'd her stand†
Voracious, and despoil'd the fruitful land,
Wing'd with Ambition's plume our trophies bore,
Triumphant to the greedy Latian shore.
Hell in his heart, religion in his eye,
Death in his hand, and on his lip the lie,
Anarch, and regicide, with civic blood
Incrusted, there tyrannic Cromwell stood ‡
Ah! Liberty, sweet daughter of our isle!
Too fond and easy was her virgin smile,
Distress'd she sought her dear deluder's aid,
Who first protected, then debauch'd the maid
If greatness still with unextinguish'd ray,
Fallacious on thy jaundic'd fancy play,
If thrones and sceptres dazzle, turn thine eyes
Where Scandinavia's cloud-capt kingdom's rise,

* The Reverend Mr. Smith, rector of Ormesby.—*Weir.*

† Remains of a Roman camp in the lordship of Ormesby

‡ At Winceby, Cromwell made a great slaughter of the royalists.

BOOK IV.

Let Danish Christian, he who knows full well,
The joys and sorrows of a monarch tell.
To beauty wedded and to kings ally'd,
Dread of Barbaric states,* and Europe's pride,
Through vast hereditary realms his word
Their only law and like a God adored,
Till Juliana's more than step-dame arts,
His throne uprooted from his subject's hearts;
Racks, tortures, prisons, deaths, await his friends.
A rival brother to his crown ascends.
Himself an idiot deem'd, his pow'r no more,
A misbegotten son, and queen a whore.
Call'd to an empire by an empire's voice,
(What title equal to the public choice)
See Stanislaus, whom ev'ry grace adorns,
Bleeding beneath Sarmatia's crown of thorns,
Honour's bright ensign from his bosom tore,†
And ruffian daggers red with royal gore.
Dragg'd through his capital, no friend to aid,
While blind religion for th' assassins pray'd.
Nor end his mis'ries here; the God of War
Drives o'er his kingdom his destructive car,
Confed'rate satraps, a rebellious band,
And turban'd Bashaws in long order stand,
The fierce Czarina, more than woman brave,
Descends with half the Polar world her slave,
Famine, plague, pestilence, attend each train,
And universal carnage hides the plain.
Bear me, O! bear me from these hated sights
Back to the village pastimes and delights,
The thoughtful pipe, the wit-inspiring bowl,
The jocund ally, and convivial soul.
Here calm content with ever-even face,
Dissolves her vot'ries in her soft embrace.
Clasp'd in her arms, the never failing springs
Of happiness we reach, and pity kings.

Walmesgate

WALMESGATE is a very small village, situated at the distance of about eight miles north-westward from Spilsby, nine miles north eastward from Horncastle, and about seven miles southward from Louth. The church, which is entirely demolished, was standing in the early

* He bombarded some of the piratical states in Barbary.

† Lukawski tore from the King of Poland's breast, the Black Eagle, the order of Prussia.

part of the seventeenth century, when it was visited, among others in this county, by Mr Gervase Holles, to whom we are indebted for so many valuable church notes, and who thus briefly adverts to it:

"This church was new built in y^e yeare . . . . . by Lyonell Skipwith, grand childe of Sir William Skipwith, and Elianor his wife, daughter of John Kingston of Great Grimesby, Esq. It is a very handsome little pile, and vaulted underneath; in which vault ly buryed y^e said Lionell Skipwith."* The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Burwell.

In the year 1821 this parish contained only 9 houses and 56 inhabitants.

Winceby.

The village of WINCEBY is situated about four miles eastward from Horncastle, near the road between that town and Spilsby, and in the year 1821 contained 11 houses, and 78 inhabitants.

The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small uninteresting edifice. The living is a discharged rectory valued in the king's books at £6. 0s. 2½d. endowed with £200 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the crown.

Battle.

This village is memorable in history as the scene of a sanguinary engagement between the forces of Charles the first, commanded by Sir John Henderson, and those of the parliament under the command of Oliver Cromwell. The battle took place on the eleventh day of October, 1643, when the royalists were defeated with great slaughter. The particulars of this conflict may be thus briefly adverted to

After the battle of Gainsborough, so disastrous to the cause of monarchy the royalist, hearing of the loss that had been sustained, pushed on their main body rapidly to avenge it in the blood of the insurgents. Cromwell retired first to Lincoln, and afterwards to Boston, in order that he might join the earl of Manchester, whose army he was appointed to reinforce, and to exercise the duties of the second in command under that nobleman.

Besides the accession of this valuable body of cavalry, the earl received a detachment of a similar force, under the command of Sir Thomas Fairfax; after which his muster roll contained about six thousand foot, and thirty seven troops of horse. To prevent any farther additions to his army, the royalist general, the Marquis of Newcastle, advanced towards Boston, prepared to give battle. With this view he despatched a large body of dragoons and regular horse, supposed to amount to eighty seven troops, under the charge of Sir John Henderson, an old soldier, who longed to measure his sword with Cromwell. Hearing that the latter had formed his line at Winceby-field, he hastened the march of his squadrons that he might attack him before the earl could bring up the infantry to his assistance. But the success of the royalist general was not equal to his zeal. Oliver, after announcing the watchword, "Truth and Peace," gave out a psalm, which was loudly sung by his officers and men as they advanced to receive the charge of their enemies. After sustaining the fire of their whole line, which did little execution, the parliament cavalry put their horses to the full speed, in order to throw themselves upon the advancing column. But ere they could come into contact, the royalists saluted them with another volley, which brought Cromwell's charger to the ground, and checked the rapidity of his manœuvre. Scarcely had he risen from the

* Harl. MSS. 6829. fol. 127.

BOOK IV. earth when he was again struck down by a powerful hand, and lay for a moment among the slain. Recovering himself once more, he mounted a horse belonging to one of his men, prosecuted the combat with increased spirit, and finally gained so complete a victory, that the enemy did not stop their flight until they had reached the neighbourhood of Lincoln, a distance of about fourteen miles. This success was the more important, inasmuch as the king's troops having enjoyed a long season of prosperity, had began to despise the parliamentarians; and from this epoch a better fortune attended the cause of the latter.

Worlaby. WORLABY is an extra-parochial hamlet, situated at the distance of about seven miles southward from Louth, and about eight miles north-eastward from Horncastle. In 1821 it contained but 4 houses, and 32 inhabitants.

Hundred of Louth Eske. The HUNDRED of LOUTH ESKE, is bounded on the north by Walshcroft, Bradley, and Ludborough Wapentakes; on the east by the German Ocean and Calceworth hundred; on the south by Hill hundred; and on the west by Wraggoe and Gartree Wapentakes. It is divided into the Wold and Marsh divisions.

WoldDivision The WOLD DIVISION, occupies the west side of the hundred, and comprises the town of Louth, and the villages of Authorpe, Burwell, Calcethorp, Cockerington St. Leonard, Cockerington St. Mary, Elkington North, Elkington South, Farforth with Maidenwell, Gayton le Wold, Hallington, Haugham, Keddington, Kelstern, Louth-Park, Maltby, Muckton, Raithby, Ruckland, Stewton, Tathwell, Welton le Wold, Withcall, and Wykham.

Louth. LOUTH, the principal town in, and which gives name to the hundred, is situated in a fertile valley, at the eastern foot of the Wolds, at the distance of twenty seven miles north eastward from the City of Lincoln, and one hundred and fifty from London.

The ancient name of this town was Luda, from its vicinity to the Lud, a small stream formed by the junction of two rivulets. The valley in which Louth is situated, runs east and west, and is sheltered on the north and south by sloping hills of indurated chalk, whose horizontal strata are principally covered with an argillaceous soil for several inches deep. Towards the west the rising grounds afford numerous and varied prospects. The scenery of the Wolds is highly diversified with hill and dale, and the interesting effects which arise from wild irregularity; but being generally devoid of wood, the features are not so intricate and picturesque as the more mountainous or woody parts of the island. To the east is a level, wooded country, which is agreeably interspersed with villages, churches, and chapels.*

EarlyNotices. This town was distinguished for the number of its religious houses previously to the Reformation, and the inhabitants, together with those belonging to the entire county, were the first to resist the measures enforced by Henry VIII. for their suppression. In 1536 they took part in an insurrection called the "Pilgrimage of Grace,"† which originated with Dr. Mackerel, abbot of Barlings, who assumed the title of Captain Cobler.

* Beauties of England and Wales. Vol. ix. p. 695.

† On their banners were painted the image of Christ crucified, and the chalice and host, the emblems of their belief: and, wherever the pilgrims appeared, the ejected monks were replaced in the monasteries, and the inhabitants were compelled to take the oath and join the army. As an instance we give the following summons sent to the commons of Hawkside. "We command you, and every of you to be at the Stoke Green beside Hawkside Kirk, on Saturday next by eleven of the clock, in your best array, as you will answer before the judge at the great day of doom, and in the pain of pulling down your houses, and in the losing of your goods, and your bodies to be at the captains will."—*Speed.*

[illegible] del. [illegible]

[illegible]

To the Inhabitants generally of [illegible] this Plate is [illegible] respectfully dedicated

[illegible]

LON[illegible] & LINCOLN JOHN SAUN[illegible] [illegible]

While the work of dissolution was rapidly proceeding, the king was suddenly alarmed by an insurrection in the northern counties, where the people retained a strong attachment to the ancient doctrines, and the clergy, farther removed from the influence of the court, were less disposed to abjure their opinions, and when they saw the ruin of the establishments which they had revered from their childhood, the monks driven from their homes, and in many instances compelled to beg for their bread, and the poor abandoned without relief, they too readily listened to the declamations of demagogues, unfurled the standard of revolt, and with arms in their hands, demanded the redress of their supposed grievances. Nor was the insurrection long confined to the common people. The nobility and gentry, the former patrons of the dissolved houses, complained that they were deprived of the corrodies reserved to them by the charters of foundation; and contended that, according to law, whenever these religious corporations ceased to exist, their lands ought not to fall to the crown, but should revert to the representatives of the original donors. The archbishop of York, the lords Nevil, Darcy, Lumley, and Latimer, and many knights and gentlemen joined the insurgents.

The first who appeared in arms were the men of Lincolnshire: and so formidable was their force, that the Duke of Suffolk, the royal commander, deemed it more prudent to negociate than to fight. They complained chiefly of the suppression of the monasteries, of the statute of uses,* and of the introduction in the council of such men as Cromwell and Rich, and of the preferment in the church of the archbishops of Canterbury and Dublin, and of the bishops of Rochester, Salisbury, and St. Davids, whose chief aim they (the insurgents) declared was to subvert the church of Christ. Several messages passed between the king and the rebels: at length a menacing proclamation created dissension in their councils, and, as soon as the more obstinate had departed to join their brethren in Yorkshire, the rest accepted a full pardon on the acknowledgement of their offence, the surrender of their arms, and the promise to maintain all the acts of parliament passed during the king's reign.† From this promise of mercy, however, Dr. Mackerel, with the vicar of Louth, four other priests, and seven laymen, were excluded, and, being found guilty of treason, they were all of them executed at Tyburn in 1537.

Plague.

In the year 1631 a destructive plague raged at Louth, from the month of April until the latter end of November, which swept away seven hundred and fifty four persons.

Government of the Town.

The government of the town is vested in a warden and six assistants, who were incorporated by charter of the 5th of Edward the sixth, and are empowered to choose a high steward, town clerk, and bailiff. In the sixth year of her reign, Queen Elizabeth gave by charter to the corporation, "the manor of Louth, and divers lands there," the annual value of which at that period was £78. 14s. 4½d., this was given for the better support of the corporate dignity. James I., in the third year of his reign, constituted the warden and one of the assistants justices of the peace, with an exempt jurisdiction, not exceeding to life and limb, and authority to appoint other proper officers. In the fifth year of the same reign, by another charter,

* By the statute of uses was meant the statute for transferring uses into possession, by which persons who before had the use only of their lands, and thus lay in a great measure at the mercy of the feoffees, became seized of the land in the same estate of which they before had the use. St. 27 Hen. VIII. 10.

† Speed, 1032. Herbert 474.

BOOK IV. they were empowered to appoint a deputy warden, to raise taxes for the good government of the town, and make other bye laws.

The warden, and one of the assistants, called the justice, are elected annually, and are magistrates in and for the town and parish; and an application has lately been made for a charter, for the appointment of two additional magistrates. The common seal yet used by this corporate body affords a curious specimen of the uncouth ideas of the time. It exhibits a schoolmaster exercising the birch upon the bare posteriors of a suppliant youth laid across his knee, whilst the other scholars are shewn at their forms, observing with fear the terrible example before them. Above the head of the man, within a scroll is this motto: "QUI PARCIT VIRGE ODIT FILIV;" *He who spares the rod spoils the child;* beneath is the date 1552, and round the verge this inscription:—SIGIL. COM. LIBERE SCOLE GRAMMATIC REG. EDWARDI. 6º IN VILLA DE LOWTH.*

Sessions for the town are held quarterly, usually in January, April, July, and October, The general quarter sessions for the southern parts of the division of Lindsey, are held here and at Spilsby alternately. Petty sessions are held every Wednesday in the Guildhall; and there is a Court of Requests, under an act passed in the 47th of George III., for the recovery of debts not exceeding five pounds, the jurisdiction of which extends over a considerable portion of the parts of Lindsey.

The living of St. James' is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Louth St. Mary, in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Prebendary of Louth, in the Cathedral Church of Lincoln, rated in the king's books at £12, and endowed with £200 royal bounty.

Church. Here were formerly two churches, dedicated respectively to St. Mary and St. James, of these, the latter only remains, considered not only the chief ornament of the town, but one of the finest structures in the county. It consists of a nave and chancel with aisles, and an elegant tower and spire at the west end. The east end, which presents a fine elevation, exhibits a large central window of seven lights, with very beautiful tracery, and two lateral windows opening into the aisles. These are separated by two well proportioned buttresses, ornamented by canopied niches; in the gable battlements are quaterfoils with crockets, and the angular point supports a cross fleury. The nave and aisles are embattled, and have numerous crocketted pinnacles.

Internally the nave is separated from the aisles by octagonal columns, the alternate sides of which are relieved by single flutes. The capitals are plain, and the pointed arches are formed by arcs of circles, whose centres are the opposite imposts. The ceiling rests upon corbels, composed of grotesque heads. The chancel, which has an altar-piece, containing a picture of the Descent from the Cross, painted by Williams, is of more modern date than the body of the church, and is probably coeval with the justly admired steeple. The body of the chancel is divided from its aisles by pillars, composed of four circular shafts connected by cones, which stand upon very high plinths, and support arches, which like those of the nave, include an equilateral triangle.

The steeple, which is the most elegant part of the building, was begun, as appears from

* It appears by the corporation records that the engraving this seal cost £1. 2s. 4d.

a manuscript still extant, under the direction of John Cole, a master mason, or architect, in the year 1501, who conducted the work about four years. After that time it went progressively on, under the management of Lawrence and William Lemyng, with Christopher Scune. The whole of this stately edifice was completed in fifteen years, for the sum of £305. 7s. 5d. The height of the spire was originally 360 feet: but the flat stone on the summit was blown off in the year 1587, and carried with it part of the building into the body of the church. The damage was repaired in the following year at the expence of £30. The whole spire was blown down on the 11th of October, 1634, and the present one erected under the direction of Thomas Turner, whose charge amounted only to the sum of £81. 7s 0d.; the extra expences were £54. 2s. 9d., making together £135. 9s. 9d. The top stone has on its north and north-eastern sides, THO. TURNER, and on the eastern side the date, 1635. The tower part of the steeple consists of three stories, the second of which has two mullioned windows, with tracery in every front. In the third story, or tier, are two more highly ornamented windows in each face, and surmounted by crocketed canopies, in bold relief. The angles of the tower are supported by buttresses, which contract as they advance in height, still preserving the finest proportion. Each stage terminates with elegant pediments, supported by ornamental corbels, in this manner diminishing to the top, where are octagonal embattled turrets, thirty feet high, whence issue four pinnacles, the angles of which are adorned with crockets, and end with finials. At eighty feet from the base, round the exterior of the tower runs a gallery, guarded by a parapet wall, and at the height of one hundred and seventy feet the battlements commence, which are pierced with embrasures and separated by the pedestals of three small pinnacles on each side. The octangular centre spire, in four of its sides, is connected to the corner turrets by spandrels, or flying buttresses of the most light and exquisite workmanship. In those faces answering to the cardinal points, are small pointed windows, and the corners of the spires are ornamented with crockets, which contribute much to the decorated appearance of the spire. The top stone projects with a cornice, and the height to the cross from the summit of the tower is one hundred and forty-one feet, making a total height of two hundred and eighty-eight feet.* The masonry of the tower and spire is greatly admired for the excellence of its execution.

The subjoined is a copy of an old manuscript, relating to the completion of the spire of this church.

"Mem. the 15 sunday after Holy Trinity in the year 1515 the weathercock was set upon the broach of Holy-rood eve, after there being William Aylesby, parish priest, with many of his brethren priests there present, hallowing the said weathercock, and the stone that it stands upon

* We extract the following notice of an extraordinary feat from the Gentleman's Magazine, 1818, part i. page 634. A man of the name of Smith lately had the temerity, *after drinking about ten pints of ale*, to ascend the spire of Louth church, which is nearly 300 feet high, and tie a handkerchief round the iron which supports the weathercock; after he had remained some time upon the top stone, danced a hornpipe, and performed several antics, he descended with all the composure imaginable to the bottom of the spire, and on the point of one of the pinnacles of the tower he stood upon one leg with his arms extended, and made his *congee* to the numerous spectators below, who witnessed this piece of presumption with horror and astonishment.

BOOK IV. and so convey upon the said broach, and then the said priests singing *Te Deum Laudamus* with the organ, and kirkwardens, rang all the bells, and caused all the people there being to have bread and ale, and all the loving of God, our Lady, and all saints."

	£	s.	d.
"Mem.—Cost and charges of the broach by 15 years;—14 score and £8 3s.	288	3	0
"And also this year ending, and paid divers men	17	4	5
"Sum, 15 score pounds and 7 shillings and five pence	£305	7	5

Vicarage House. The Vicarage House which stands contiguous to the south side of the church yard has been recently erected after the designs of — Carr, Esq., a clever architect residing in this town. The style, which is neat and unostentatious, is admirably suited for that class of buildings to which it belongs. We cannot however, forbear regretting that it was found necessary to destroy the old edifice, or Hermitage as it was more commonly called, since the romantic associations connected with it, have afforded so much gratification to those who have been indulged with a view of its many and varied curiosities.

Hermitage. The former vicarage house was an ancient thatched building, and the garden in unison with it was laid out in a curious style of ingenious rusticity. Interspersed amongst planted walks, were several buildings, seats, and cloisters, for the use of the supposed Hermit. The principal building contained the study, the kitchen, the chapel, and the dormitory, each of which was fitted up in an appropriate style, and was tastefully ornamented with fir cones, moss, bark, flints, bones, and other simple productions of nature, and the various walks were decorated with obelisks and vases, with numerous devises and mottoes. all of which conspired to attract the attention and admiration of every person who viewed this once interesting scene. Of this curious Hermitage but little now remains to remind us of its former quiet beauties, and it is to be feared that even that little will soon be swept away by the devastating hand of *improvement*.

St. Mary's Church. Here was formerly, as we have before observed, another church, dedicated to St. Mary, but which is now totally demolished; the church yard is, however, the present place of sepulture for the town, as that of St. James's has not been used for that purpose for more than half a century. The church yard is situated a little to the north-west of the edifice we have already described.

Chapels. There are five other places of worship in Louth, belonging to the Roman Catholics, the Baptists, the Independents, the Wesleyans, and the Primitive Methodists.

Catholic Chapel. The new Catholic Chapel, now, (October, 1833,) in the course of erection, is situated near the entrance of the town from the Spilsby road. It is a neat Gothic structure, composed principally of brick, but the ornamental parts of the doors, windows, &c. are of stone. Surmounting the western pediment, over the principal entrance is a handsomely carved stone cross, three feet in height, by two in breadth, affording a noble and characteristic finish to the building.

The other chapels are neat and commodius structures, but offer no particular feature worthy of a circumstantial description. The churches and chapels have each a Sunday School attached to them, and here is likewise an Auxiliary Bible Society which is liberally supported. CHAP. V.

The Town Hall is a handsome modern erection, situated in the Butcher Market. The former structure, an old plain building, stood at the end of the principal street leading to the market place, where, by dividing a part of the street into two narrow lanes, it became offensive to the eye, and a nuisance to the inhabitants. Town Hall.

The Assembly Room, commonly called the Mansion House, is situated in Upgate. It contains a suite of elegant apartments which are fitted up in the Grecian style, with considerable taste. Assembly Room.

The Theatre is a small but neat building, erected by Mr. Edward Blyth, merchant; to whose public spirit, Louth is indebted, for several handsome buildings, and liberal institutions. Theatre.

In Mercer Row an edifice is now (1833) in the course of erection, the objects of which are of great public utility. A portion of it is intended to be used for the subscription library, while the remaining apartments are to be devoted to the services of the Savings' Bank, News Rooms, &c.

In Kidgate is the Wool Market, a commodious building, belong to the corporation, which was opened on the 18th of June, 1825. Wool Market

The Sessions House and Prison, situated in Eastgate, is a handsome modern pile, with a portico of Roman Doric architecture. The tread-mill is used to grind corn for sale. Sessions House and Prison.

The Gas-works at River-head were erected in pursuance of, an act of parliament obtained for the purpose of lighting, paving, and improving the town, in 1825. These works were finished in the following year, and the town was first lighted with gas on the 6th of April, 1826. Gas Works.

The Dispensary is in Post Office Lane, where attendance is given twice in every week, viz, on Tuesday and Friday. Dispensary.

The Free Grammar School was founded and endowed by Edward VI, with the property of some ancient guilds in this town, consisting of about one hundred and sixty acres of land, with several messuages and tenements, and the tolls of markets and fairs; the trustees are the warden and six assistants with their successors, who are authorised to make laws for the government of the school. The present income is about £600 per annum, of which sum half is directed to be given to the head master, a quarter to the usher, and the remainder to be appropriated to the maintenance of twelve poor women, who reside in alms-houses under the school room. The school is open for gratuitous classical instruction to the children of all parishioners A fund is raised for the terms of admission on the annual "speech day," and from a subsequent ball, out of which assistance is afforded to any young man of superior abilities at either of the Universities, who had been previously educated here. Free Grammar School.

The trustees of the school have erected an excellent and spacious house, for the residence of the master, near to the school room, in a situation quite retired from the town, to which is attached a convenient play-ground. For this house he pays rent to the corporation, it having been erected from their purse.

A respectable list might be given of men, educated at this school, who have passed

BOOK IV. through the universities with honour, and who have afterwards acquired distinction in the church, at the bar, and in the army and navy. The school of Louth has, for many years past, maintained a high character in the county of Lincoln, and has probably educated more scholars for the learned professions than any other school in the county.

Free School. Besides the one above mentioned, here is another free school for poor boys, founded by Robert Mapletoft, D.D., dean of Ely, who by a codicil attached to his will, bearing date August 7, 1677, gave all his meadow and pasture lands in Saltfleetby, to be vested in trustees, for the maintenance of a fit person to teach the children of Louth, in reading, writing, arithmetic, the church catechism, and the accidence. The trustees have the power of increasing or diminishing the number of free scholars, according to the rise or fall of the rents of the estate, and the master is allowed to take other pupils. The number of scholars on the establishment has for several years been twenty-one; and the annual rent of the lands is nearly fifty pounds.

This school was, for a period of thirty years, conducted by Mr. Thomas Espin, F. S. A. who died in December 1822, and who was not only distinguished for the faithful discharge of his duty in the establishment committed to his care, but also for his skill in drawing. Having at an early period imbibed a strong partiality for the study of the early English architecture, the cathedral, the church, the ruined monastery, or castle, and the antiquated mansion, were the subjects on which he most frequently employed his pencil, and in which he particularly excelled. A few years previous to his death, he erected a residence on the eastern side of the town, in his favourite style of architecture, which is justly admired for the chastity of its design, as well as the correctness of its execution. In a sequestered spot near the house, and in a corresponding style of architecture, he also erected a small mausoleum, wherein his remains lie interred. The grounds surrounding the house are tastefully interspersed with trees and shrubs, which render this spot a favourite resort of the inhabitants of the town as well as strangers.*

National School. A National School, erected in 1818, and enlarged in 1820, is supported by voluntary contributions, and contains about three hundred children.

Manufactories. A carpet and blanket manufactory, established a few years ago, is conducted on an extensive scale, and is in a very flourishing condition; and a paper mill, and soap house, furnish employment to a considerable number of persons. Here are likewise several worsted manufactories and wool-staplers.

Canal. In 1761, an act of parliament was obtained for cutting a canal between this town and the Humber, which was completed at an expence of £12,000. By means of this mode of communication, vessels of considerable burden regularly trade with London, Hull, and several other parts of Yorkshire, carrying out corn and wool, and bringing back coal, timber, iron, grocery, and other articles of commerce; hence it has proved highly advantageous to the town and neighbourhood. The canal commences at the western end of the town, and keeps parallel with the banks of the Lud, which supplies it with water. It leaves the river about four miles from the town, and by a sweep to the north joins the Humber, at a place called Tetney Lock.

* Weir's Lincolnshire, page 266.

The open or common fields of Louth were inclosed under the authority of an act of parliament, obtained in 1801.

Springs

At the foot of the northern hills, several springs issue of a very peculiar nature. They run rapidly during the summer, but in winter are generally dry. Aswell spring turns a cornmill only two hundred yards from its source; and St. Helen's Well once supplied Louth Park Abbey by means of a cut called Monk's Dyke.

The mode of obtaining water for irrigating the land here, or for domestic purposes, is somewhat unusual. The stratum of argillaceous soil, which descends to a depth of twenty-seven yards, is perforated, and a hollow tube of tin or copper is inserted into the bed of gravel beneath, through which the water rises, and thus a perpetual fountain is formed, from which a copious supply is readily obtained throughout a district of thirty miles in length, and ten in breadth.

According to the population returns of 1821, this town contained 1217 houses, and 6012 inhabitants.

Louth Park.

About a mile eastward from Louth, is the hamlet of Louth Park, which, though included in the parish of Louth, forms a separate constablewick. At this place is the site of an Abbey,* which was founded about the year 1139, by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, who furnished it with monks of the cistertian order from the Abbey of Fountains, in Yorkshire. Besides the munificent endowment of the founder, this establishment received numerous donations from Ralph, earl of Chester, William de Freiston, Hugh de Scoteney, Robert de Permota, and several others, all of which were confirmed by King Henry III., in the eighth year of his reign, at which time it contained sixty-six monks, and one hundred and fifty conversi.† At the suppression of monasteries, its possessions amounted to £147. 14s. 6d. per annum, according to Dugdale, and £169. 5s. 6d. according to Speed, and in the thirtieth year of Henry VIII. they were granted to Charles, duke of Suffolk, and in the twelfth year of Queen Elizabeth, to sir Henry Stanley, knight, and Margaret, his wife. Of the buildings which appear to have been very extensive, the foundations only remain.

In 1821, this hamlet contained 9 houses, and 43 inhabitants.

Authorpe.

The village of AUTHORPE is situated at the distance of about seven miles to the south-east of Louth. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is an uninteresting edifice. The living is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £5. 13s. 4d. Robert Viner was patron in 1806. According to the returns in 1821, this parish contained 21 houses, and 100 inhabitants.

Burwell.

BURWELL is a decayed Market town, at the distance of about five miles and a half south-east from Louth, on the road between that town and Spilsby. In the reign of King Henry I., this lordship formed part of the possessions of Sir Hugh Bardolfe, of Castle Carleton, and in the reign of Charles I., it was purchased by Sir Marmaduke Langdale, one of the generals of that monarch The manor, which is co-extensive with the parish, has for many years

* From the circumstance of its being built in a park, it usually went by the name of the Monastery *De Parcoludo*.

† The Conversi, in Monasteries, were persons retained to perform all kinds of laborious business in the abbies and granges. They were made from *novices*, and learning being expressly forbidden them, they could never become monks. *Harl. MSS.* 63. *B.* 10.

BOOK IV. been in the possession of a family named Lister, whose seat is situated in a spacious park, which commands extensive and pleasing views over the surrounding country.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, consists of a tower, nave, and chancel, and appears at some former period, to have had a southern aisle. The chancel is separated from the nave by a circular arch, ornamented with zig-zag, circular, and billeted mouldings. In the south wall is a double piscina, over which is a tablet in memory of Hugh Allington, Esq., of Horseth in Cambridgeshire, who married Jane, daughter of Sir Martin Lister. In the floor are some stones with ancient inscriptions, partly covered by pews.

Priory. At this place is the site of an alien priory of Benedictine monks, which was given by some of the lords of Kyme, to the abbey of St. Mary's Silvæ Majoris, near Bordeaux. It was founded by John de Hay; who endowed it with various lands; from whom was descended Gilbert de Umphraville, earl of Augus, who lived at Burwell, and had the appointment of the prior, by a claim derived from his ancestor. After the general seizure of alien houses, this came to the college at Tattershall, and as part of the possessions thereof, was granted in the thirty-sixth year of Henry VIII., to Charles duke of Suffolk.

This place possesses two annual fairs, one of which is held on the 15th of May, the other on Old Michaelmas day. In 1821, the parish contained 25 houses, and 161 inhabitants.

Burwell House was the birth place of Sarah, duchess of Marlborough, whose ascendency in the affections of Queen Anne had a material influence on the political events of that reign.

Calcethorpe. CALCETHORPE is distant about six miles north-westward from Louth. It has no church, and the inhabitants frequent that of the adjoining parish of Kelstern. The living is a sinecure rectory, rated in the king's books at £6. 2s. 6d. The bishop of Lincoln presented by lapse in 1783. The church was dedicated to St. Faith. In 1821, this village contained 6 houses, and 60 inhabitants.

Cockerington. COCKERINGTON ST. LEONARD'S, or South Cockerington, situated about three miles and a half north-east from Louth, was anciently the head of the barony of Scoteney. It subsequently became the seat of the Scroope family, in whose possession it still remains. From Sir Adrian Scroope, knight, of this place, was descended Adrial Scroope, esq., who was educated at Oxford, and became one of the loyal attendants to King Charles I., at Edgehill, where he was severely wounded, and left among the dead; but being brought off by his son, was recovered by the immortal Dr. William Harvey, who, while the battle was at its height, was attending the prince, and Duke at a distant station. On the coronation of Charles II. Scroope, was made knight of the Bath. Sir Carr Scroope, the poet and satirist was son of Adrian Scroope.

Church. In the church is a tomb, on which is the alabaster figure of a knight in coat armour, with his head reclining upon his right hand, and his sword lying by his side. On the side of the tomb are the figures of his seven sons, with the motto of "Similis in prole resurgo," and two daughters kneeling, and two in a cradle, with "Pares et Impares;" and at the foot of the tomb this inscription:

"The thrice noble Sir Adrian Scroope, knight, deceased the 10th December, 1623.

Tombes are but dumbe lay-bookes they onley keepe
Their names alive who in their wombes do sleepe
But who would pen the virtues of this knight
A story, not an epitaph must write."

The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £5 1s. 5½d., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. The church is dedicated to St. Leonard.

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 38 houses, and 206 inhabitants.

COCKERINGTON ST. MARY'S, or north Cockerington, is situated at the distance of about three miles and a half north-eastward from Louth. This parish having no church, the inhabitants have for time immemorial used the priory church of the adjacent village of Alvingham. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Alvingham, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. The church was dedicated to St. Mary. In 1821, this village contained 14 houses, and 186 inhabitants. Cockerington St. Mary's.

NORTH ELKINGTON is at the distance of about four miles north-west from Louth on the road between that place and Market Raisen. The church is a mean edifice, possessing no claims to attention. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the kings books at £4 19s. 4½d, and endowed with £600 royal bounty. The church is dedicated to St. Helen. In 1821, the parish contained 14 houses and 74 inhabitants. Elkington, North.

SOUTH ELKINGTON is situated at the distance of two miles north westward from Louth. The church is an humble edifice claiming no particular attention. The living is a discharged vicarage valued at £5 7s. 6d. The church is dedicated to All Saints. Elkington, South.

In this parish, and near the town of Louth, is Thorpe Hall, where a branch of the ancient family of Bolle formerly resided, but which is now the residence of W. Chaplin, Esq.

In 1821, South Elkington contained 47 houses, and 268 inhabitants.

FARFORTH is a very small village, situated at the distance of about six miles south-westward from Louth, and containing, with its hamlet of Maiden-well, 10 houses, and 94 inhabitants. The church is a small and mean building. The living is a discharged rectory, with the vicarage of Maidenwell, united in 1753 to the rectory of Ruckland and rated in the king's books at £6 6s. 8d. The church is dedicated to St. Peter. Farforth with Maidenwell.

GAYTON, or GAYTON-LE-WOLD is distant about six miles and a half westward from Louth. The church, a modern erection, dedicated to St. Peter, is a very small and unpretending edifice. The living is a discharged rectory, valued at £8 11s. 0d, and is in th epatronage of the crown. In 1821, this parish contained 14 houses, and 122 inhabitants. Gayton-le-Wold.

GRIMBLETHORPE is an extra-parochial hamlet, situated a little to the north of Gayton. Grimblethorpe

HALLINGTON, though a separate constablewick is only a hamlet to Raithby, which it adjoins on the south. The living is a vicarage with Raithby, valued in the king's books at £17 1s. 8d. The church is dedicated to St. Lawrence. In 1821, this place contained 13 houses, and 75 inhabitants. Hallington.

HAUGHAM, situated about three miles and a half southward from Louth, was one of the principal places of residence of Roger de Busli, a follower of William the Conqueror who possessed many lordships; another of his residences was Tickhill, in Yorkshire. The barony terminated in John, his grandson, who left one daughter and heir, married to Robert de Vipount, a powerful baron of that period. Haugham.

Here was an alien priory, a cell to the Benedictine abbey of St. Mary San Sever, in France, which was founded by Hugh, first earl of Chester. This cell, then valued at twelve marks per annum, was, about the twentieth year of Richard II., settled upon the Carthu- Priory.

CHAP. V. sian priory of St. Ann, near Coventry, and, as parcel thereof, was in the thirty-seventh year of Henry VIII., granted to John Bellow, and John Broxholme.

The living is a discharged vicarage, now sequestrated, rated in the king's books at £8 1s. 8d., and endowed with £400 royal bounty. In 1821, this parish contained 13 houses, and 100 inhabitants.

In this parish is a hill called Skirbeck, out of the side of which occasionally rushes a torrent of water sufficient to fill a tube of thirty inches in diameter. The stream continues to run for several weeks together from a place, where, at other times, there is not the slightest appearance of a spring This sudden irruption is observed generally to happen after long and heavy rains, and is a phenomenon not common, but in very mountainous countries.*

Keddington. KEDDINGTON is a small village, situated on the banks of the canal, about a mile and a half north-eastward from Louth. The church, dedicated to St Margaret, is a small edifice containing no monuments of interest. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued at £3 6s. 8d., and endowed with £400 royal bounty. Sir W. E. Welby, bart., was patron, in 1816.

According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained 28 houses, and 179 inhabitants.

Kelstern. KELSTERN is distant about four miles north-westward from Louth, on the turnpike road between that place and Market Rasen. In this parish was formerly a seat belonging to a family named South.

Church. The church, which is a small uninteresting edifice, contains in the north wall of the chancel a singular monument, erected by Sir Francis South, knight, to the memory of his wife, Elizabeth, who died in 1604; this monument is curiously ornamented with emblematical figures and inscriptions. It is embellished with a female figure, sitting in an upright posture; her left hand, which rests upon a pedestal, holds an hour glass, and her left foot is placed upon a skull; and at the foot of the pedestal is a child in a coffin. On one of the spandrels of the arch is a rising sun, with the motto "Occidit ut oriatur," and on the other the dial of a clock, without hands with "Qualibet expectus tamen." On the cornice of one of the pilasters is a naked boy with a spade, with the motto "Nil sine labore," and on the other a Hymen with his torch inverted on a skull, and "In alto requies." At the back of the figure is a tablet containing an epitaph in latin verse.

On the other side of the chancel is a tablet to the memory of the second wife of Sir Francis, who died in 1620. Above the tablet are the arms of South impaling those of Irby, and on each side is a female figure weeping.

The living is a discharged vicarage valued at £6 11s. 10d. John Dennison, Esq. was patron in 1806. The church is dedicated to St. Faith. In this village there is also a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists.

In 1821 Kelstern, with the hamlet of Lambcroft contained 19 houses and 179 inhabitants.

Maltby. MALTBY, called from its locality Maltby on the Wolds, is distant about two miles from Louth, on the road between that place and Horncastle. This place, though a separate constablewick, is only a hamlet to the adjacent parish of Raithby, with which the population is returned.

* Beauties of England and Wales, vol ix. page 702.

Here was formerly a preceptory of Knights Templars, afterwards of the Hospitallers, to which Randal, Earl of Chester, was the first donor. In the thirty third year of Henry VIII. it was granted to Charles, Duke of Suffolk.

Ann Bolle, in 1705, bequeathed certain land, directing the income, after deducting forty shillings a year for the poor, to be applied in teaching children.

Muckton. MUCKTON is situated at the distance of about six miles south eastward from Louth, and contained in the year 1821, 17 houses and 131 inhabitants. The church is a small mean edifice, entirely devoid of interest. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £6 3s. 6½d. and endowed with £200 royal bounty. M. B. Lister esq. was patron in 1817.

Raithby. The village of RAITHBY is situated about two miles south-west from Louth; it is commonly called Raithby near Louth, to distinguish it from another village of the same name near Spilsby.

Church. The church dedicated to St. Peter, is a small building, laying no claim to any particular notice. The living is a rectory, united to Hallington. In 1821, this parish including the hamlet of Maltby, contained 24 houses, and 120 inhabitants.

Buckland. BUCKLAND, situated at the distance of about seven miles south-westward from Louth, is a very small village, containing in 1821, only 4 houses, and 33 inhabitants. The church is a small modern structure dedicated to St. Olave. The living is a discharged rectory, with that of Farforth, and the vicarage of Maidenwell, valued at £6 3s. 9d., and is in the patronage of Lord Yarborough.

Stewton. STEWTON is a small village, situated about three miles eastward from Louth. The church, a mean structure, is dedicated to St. Andrew. The living is a discharged rectory, valued at £7. Dudley North, Esq. was patron in 1817.

According to the parliamentary returns of 1821, this parish contained 12 houses, and 63 inhabitants.

Tathwell. TATHWELL is situated at the distance of about three miles southward from Louth, near the turnpike road between that town and Horncastle, and contains a seat belonging to Charles Chaplin, Esq.

On an eminence in this parish, called Bully Hill, are six oblong barrows, lying in a line from east to west, and on another elevated spot called Orgath Hill, are the traces of an ancient encampment.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Vedast, is, with the exception of the tower, a modern erection. In the chancel is a monument with a Latin inscription to William Hanby Esq., who died in 1626, aged 72. Beneath the inscription is his figure kneeling at a desk, and in a compartment below, is another inscription in Latin, to Edward Hanby Esq., who died in 1626, aged 60, and Elizabeth, his wife, who died in 1601, aged 45: beneath are their figures kneeling at a desk, and under them their seven sons and six daughters. In this monument is inlaid a marble slab inscribed to John Chaplin, Esq., who married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir John Hanby, and died in 1714, aged 56. Over the communion table is a tablet in memory of Thomas Chaplin, Esq., who died in 1747, aged 63.

The living is a discharged vicarage valued at £10, and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln.

In 1821 this village contained 37 houses, occupied by 272 inhabitants.

BOOK IV.

Welton-le-Wold.

The village of WELTON-LE-WOLD, is situated about four miles westward from Louth, and contained, according to the returns of 1821, 25 houses, and 144 inhabitants.

The church, dedicated to St Martin, is situated on the side of a hill. In the wall of the chancel is an inscription in Latin to the memory of John Dyon, Esq. without any date; and in the floor is a stone inscribed to Thomas Asgarby who died in 1420. The living is a rectory in the patronage of the crown, valued at £11 12s. 1d.

Near this village rise some remarkably fine springs, one of which partly supplies the river Lud.

Withcall.

WITHCALL, four miles and a half westward of Louth, is a depopulated village, containing in 1821, only 8 houses and 89 inhabitants.

The church is a small structure, but it appears originally to have been of much larger dimensions. In the floor is a stone with an inscription in ancient characters round its verge. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £11 16s. 10d. and is in the patronage of the crown. The church is dedicated to St. Martin.

Wykeham.

The depopulated village of WYKEHAM is situated at the distance of about seven miles north-westward from Louth In 1821 it contained only 4 houses and 29 inhabitants. The church is entirely demolished. The living is a discharged vicarage in the patronage of — Ferrand, Esq.

Marsh Division

The MARSH DIVISION of the Hundred of Louth-Eske, contains the villages of Alvingham, Carlton Castle, Carlton Great, Carlton Little, Conisholme, Grainthorpe cum Ludney and Wragholme, Grimoldby, Manby, Reston North, Saltfleetby All Saints, Saltfleetby St. Clements, Saltfleetby St Peters, Skidbroke, with Saltfleet Haven, Somercoates North, Somercoates South, and Yarborough.

Alvingham.

ALVINGHAM is situated at the distance of about three miles eastward from Louth, on the banks of the canal. Here was formerly a Priory of Gilbertine canons, which was founded in the latter end of the reign of King Stephen, or in the beginning of the reign of Henry II., but by whom has not been ascertained. Its revenues a little before the suppression were valued at £128 14s. 2d. per annum, according to Dugdale, and £141 15s. 0d. according to Speed. It was granted to Lord Clinton. The only remains of this priory is a chapel, a small ruinous building which serves as a parish church for the adjacent village of North Cockerington; it contains a decayed tomb, on which is a mutilated figure in chain armour without inscription.

The parish church of Alvingham stands within a few yards of the priory chapel but is destitute of interest. The living is a perpetual curacy, rated in the king's books at £2, and endowed with £1000 royal bounty. The bishop of Lincoln is patron.

In 1821 this parish contained 50 houses and 261 inhabitants.

Carlton Castle

CASTLE CARLTON, now a small village, was once a populous market town. It is situated about six miles and a half south-westward from Louth, and it contained according to the population returns of 1821, 8 houses and 62 inhabitants. Here was once a spacious church and a chapel, but at present its only place of worship is a small modern structure possessing no features worthy of particular notice. The living is a rectory not in charge, and endowed with £400 royal bounty. The church is dedicated to the Holy Cross.

In the reign of Henry I., this place was the head of the barony of Sir Hugh Barde, who,

in the first year that he was lord of it, is reported to have slain a dragon, which was the terror of the neighbourhood. Sir Hugh having atchieved this conquest, carried the head of his formidable antagonist to the king, who thereupon changed his name to Bardolph. The monarch also granted important privileges to the town No justice, sheriff, or bailiff, could arrest within the parish without the consent of the lord of the manor. The mayor was to go yearly to the toll court of Louth, to demand freedom from all tolls, for the tenants of this place and Great Carlton. The hayward of the lord of the manor, had a right to take his horn full of salt from every cart carrying that article through the town.* CHAP. V.

In this parish are three artificial hills, each surrounded by a mote, on one of which the baronial castle of Sir Hugh Bardolph is said to have stood. Those hills command an un interrupted view to the North Sea: they are now covered with trees, and, with the moats, occupy about five acres of land. On the south and east sides of the village, is an ancient rampart, about a mile in length, twelve feet wide, and five feet in height.

The village of GREAT CARLTON, is situated at the distance of about six miles and a half to the south-east of Louth The church is a neat edifice, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. On the south side of the tower is a stone, containing the following quaint inscription in antique characters:— GreatCarlton.

For Rob'o Shadworth sawlle Ie pray
Yt. for yis fote makyng did pay.

The living is a vicarage not in charge, and is in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln

A school was erected in this village by Sir Edward Smith, which is endowed with £20 per annum, besides an annuity of £10 given by Sir John Monson, on condition that the master should teach the poor children of Great and Little Carlton, Burton, Broxholm, and those of his tenants at Saxilby. In 1821 this village contained 39 houses, and 242 inhabitants.

LITTLE CARLTON adjoins the last mentioned village on the west. The church, which is dedicated to St. Edith, is a small thatched building. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £5 16s. 10½d. In 1821, this parish contained 20 houses, and 114 inhabitants. LittleCarlton.

CONISHOLM is distant about eight miles and a half north-eastward from Louth. The church, which is a small uninteresting edifice, is dedicated to St. Peter. On a marble slab are the brass effigies of a man in armour, and a female, at whose feet are five sons, and nine daughters, and around them an inscription to John Langholme, of Conisholm, who died in 1550. In 1821, this parish contained 23 houses, and 127 inhabitants. Conisholm.

The village of GRAINTHORPE is situated at the distance of about nine miles north-eastward from Louth. The church, dedicated to St. Clement, contains nothing of interest, with the exception of a fine tower at the west end. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty and £1000 parliamentary grant. It is in the patronage of the president and fellows of Magdalen college, Cambridge. In 1821, this Grainthorpe.

* Weir's Lincolnshire, page 260.

BOOK IV. parish, including the hamlets of Ludney, and Wragholme, contained 92 houses and 503 inhabitants.

Grimoldby. GRIMOLDBY is distant about four miles and a half eastward from Louth, on the turnpike road between that place and Saltfleet. The church, dedicated to St. Edith, is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel, and a tower at the western end. The living is a discharged rectory, valued at £9 10s., and is in the patronage of Lord Middleton. In 1821, this place contained 68 houses, and 298 inhabitants.

Manby. The village of MANBY is situated about five miles eastward from Louth. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat edifice, but contains nothing of interest. The living is a discharged rectory, valued at £11 10s. 2d. Here is also a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. According to the returns of 1821, the parish contained at that period 34 houses, and 236 inhabitants.

North Reston. NORTH RESTON is a small village about seven miles southward from Louth. The church is a modern structure, dedicated to St Edith. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £4 11s. 10½d., endowed with £200 royal bounty. Mrs. Jackson was patroness in 1827. In this village is also a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. According to the parliamentary returns of 1821, this parish contained only 6 houses, and 46 inhabitants.

Saltfleetby All Saints. SALTFLEETBY ALL SAINTS, or Middle Saltfleet, is distant about nine miles east from Louth, on the road between that place and Saltfleet. The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, consists of a tower, a nave with south aisle, and a chancel. This living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £12 19s. 4½d., and is in the gift of the president and fellows of Magdalen College, Oxford. In 1821, this parish contained 35 houses, and 185 inhabitants.

Saltfleetby St. Clement's. SALTFLEETBY ST. CLEMENT'S, or East Saltfleetby, is situated near the sea, at the distance of about ten miles and a half east from Louth. The church is an uninteresting edifice, dedicated to St. Clement. The living is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £7 0s. 1d., and is in the patronage of Earl Brownlow. The Reverend John Watson, who died here in 1693, was minister of this parish seventy four years, in which time he buried three successive generations in the village, except three or four persons.* In 1821, this parish contained 23 houses, and 126 inhabitants.

Saltfleetby St. Peter's. SALTFLEETBY ST. PETER'S, or West Saltfleetby, is situated on the turnpike road between Saltfleet and Louth, at the distance of about eight miles east from the latter place. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, contains a neat tablet to the memory of John Williamson, gent. who died in 1722 The living is a rectory valued at £5., and is in the patronage of the Provost and Fellows of Oriel College, Oxford. In 1821 the parish contained 39 houses and 218 inhabitants.

Thomas Oldham, Esq. has a seat here, adjacent to which is a prospect tower, from the summit of which is an extensive view over the surrounding country.

Saltfleet Haven. SALTFLEET HAVEN, situated at the distance of about eleven miles eastward from Louth, is a hamlet, though formerly a town, in the parish of Skidbrook. At one period it appears to have been a place of some consequence, having in the year 1359, furnished two ships, and

* Weir's Lincolnshire, page 258.

forty nine men, to the navy of king Edward III., for the invasion of Brittany. The old town is said to have been destroyed by an inundation of the sea. A fair is held here on the 3rd of October, which is celebrated for the show of good foals. Off the coast is a very fine bed of oysters. The market used to be held weekly on Tuesday. Having no church the inhabitants resort to that of the neighbouring village of Skidbrook. The returns of the population of Saltfleet Haven is included with that of Skidbrook.

The village of SKIDBROOK is distant about ten miles eastward from Louth, and with the adjacent hamlet of Saltfleet Haven, contained in 1821, 81 houses, and 365 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Botolph, consists of a nave, chancel, and tower, but offers nothing interesting to the historian or antiquary. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £11 3s. 6d. Skidbrook

NORTH SOMERCOATES is situated at the distance of about nine miles north eastward from Louth, and near the sea coast. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, consists of a tower, nave, and chancel. The font is octagonal, and supported by eight small figures; upon each face is a shield or other device. The living is a vicarage valued at £9 8s. 4d. and is in the patronage of the king as Duke of Lancaster. Here is also a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. In 1821 the number of houses in this parish was 158, and of inhabitants 681. North Somercoates

The village of SOUTH SOMERCOATES is distant about eight miles north eastward from Louth, and adjoins the parish last described. The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, is chiefly remarkable for its lofty spire, which forms a conspicuous object over the surrounding country. On the floor are three stones inlaid with crosses fleury, but the inscriptions have been destroyed. The font is octagonal and embellished with curious devices. This living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £22 6s. 3d., and is in the patronage of the king as duke of Lancaster. According to the returns of 1821 this parish contained 31 houses, and 301 inhabitants. South Somercoates

Robert de Somercoate, eminent for his learning and many amiable qualities, was born either here or in the foregoing village. In 1231, he was made cardinal of St. Stephen's, by Pope Gregory XII; and on the death of that personage in 1241, he was the foremost of three to be elected as his successor: but those who opposed his election prevented it, by poisoning him in the conclave.

South Somercoates gave birth to Thomas Sparks, D. D. an eminent divine, and a man of considerable literary attainments, he died in the year 1610. Christopher Newstead, a clergyman, distinguished for his literary talents, was also born at this place. In 1631, he took his degree of Bachelor of Divinity, and before he left college he wrote, "An Apology for Women; or the Women's Defence," which he dedicated to the Countess of Buckingham.

The village of YARBOROUGH is distant about five miles north eastward from Louth. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a western end, the upper windows of which have a pointed arch, divided into two lights by a strong mullion, and a quartrefoil head; the mullion being crossed by a transom terminating at the imposts. On one side of the arch of the western entrance, is the representation of Adam and Eve, under the branches of a fruit tree, on the trunk of which is the dart of death. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £9 13s. 6d. Here Yarborough

BOOK IV. is also a place of worship belonging to the Wesleyan Methodists. Yarborough gives the title of baron to the Pelham family. In 1821, this village contained 43 houses, and 207 inhabitants.

Ludborough Wapentake. The WAPENTAKE of LUDBOROUGH is situated on the south of the wapentake of Bradley Haverstoe, and contains the parishes of Brackenborough, Covenham St. Bartholomew, Covenham St. Mary, Fotherby, Grimsby Little, Ludborough, Ormsby North, Utterby, and Wyham cum Cadeby.

Brackenborough. BRACKENBOROUGH is situated at the distance of about two miles and a half northward from Louth. In 1821 it contained only eight houses, and 54 inhabitants. Brackenborough, though a separate constablewick is only a hamlet to Little Grimsby. The manor belongs to the Heneage family.

Covenham St. Bartholomew. The village of COVENHAM St. BARTHOLOMEW, on a branch of the river Lud is situated about six miles north-eastward from Louth.

Priory. Some lands in this parish were given by William the Conqueror to the Abbey of St. Karalephus, in Normandy, and at the instigation of William bishop of Durham, a priory of Benedictine monks was founded here, which continued as a cell to the foreign monastery, until the thirty first year of Edward the first, when it was made over to the abbot and convent of Kirkstead, to whom it belonged till the dissolution; after which it was granted to William Skipwith. The cell at Covenham had land in Gernethorpe, Skidbroke, and Grimsby, and the patronage of the church of Covenham St. Mary, valued then at ten marks.* Of this monastic edifice no vestiges remain.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, was originally built in the form of a cross with a tower in the centre, but the north end of the transept has been demolished. In the floor of the chancel is a flat grave stone, which contained the brass effigies of a man in armour, said to be Sir John Skipwith, but which, with the inscription and shields, are gone. The font is octagonal, supported by shafts of the same form, and is surrounded by four angels bearing shields of arms. On one face of the upper part is a representation of the Deity, on another is the virgin and child, and on the remaining six sides are the twelve apostles in pairs. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £17 12s. 8d.

According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained 39 houses, and 219 inhabitants.

Covenham St. Mary. COVENHAM St. MARY is situated one mile eastward of the above, and on the opposite side of the rivulet. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a rectory valued at £10, and is in the patronage of the crown. It consists of a nave, chancel, and a tower at the western end. In the north wall of the chancel is an arched compartment, ornamented with tracery, which has evidently in former times contained a tomb.

In 1821 this parish contained 25 houses, and 142 inhabitants.

Fotherby. The village of FOTHERBY is situated at the distance of about three miles northward from Louth, on the road from that place to Grimsby. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of a nave, chancel and tower, but contains no inscription worthy of particular attention.

* "William de Percy gave two parts of his tythe corn in Covenham, Elkington, Immingham, and Ludford, to the Abbey of Whitby." Burton's Monasticon Ebor. p. 72.

The living is a vicarage valued in the king's books at £3., and is in the patronage of the crown. CHAP. V.

In 1821, Fotherby contained 42 houses, and 198 inhabitants.

LITTLE GRIMSBY is a very small village, situated at the distance of about three miles north eastward from Louth. The church is a small modernized building dedicated to St. Edith. The living is a vicarage, valued at £3 6s. 8d. LittleGrimsby

The manor house was once a seat of the Nelthorpes. In 1821 this parish contained 9 houses, and 63 inhabitants.

The village of LUDBOROUGH, which gives name to the wapentake, is situated at the distance of about six miles to the north of Louth, on the road between that place and Grimsby. The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, a chancel, and a tower at the west end. In the chancel are three ornamented stone stalls. Part of the south aisle is used as a school, which is supported by contributions, an endowment which it once possessed being lost. The living is a rectory valued at £20 19s. 4d. In 1821, this parish contained 45 houses, and 281 inhabitants. Ludborough.

NORTH ORMSBY, or *Nun Ormesby*, is five miles north westward from Louth. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is a small uninteresting edifice. The living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £3., and is in the patronage of the crown. North Ormsby.

A priory of Gilbertine nuns and canons, was founded here in the reign of King Stephen, by William, earl of Albermarle, and Gilbert, son of Robert de Ormsby; or, according to other authorities, by Sir Oswald de Ormsby, in the reign of Henry II. It was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and at the dissolution, its possessions were valued at £80. 11s. 10d., according to Dugdale; and £98. according to Speed. In the thirty-first year of Henry VIII. it was granted to Sir Robert Heneage. No remains of this priory are at present left. Priory.

In 1821, this parish contained 20 houses, and 110 inhabitants.

UTTERBY is situated at the distance of about four miles from Louth, on the turnpike road from that town to Grimsby. The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and consists of a tower, a nave, north aisle, a chancel, and a chapel on the South. Here are several memorials of the Harold family, who have for many years been seated here. It also contains a painted escutcheon of the arms of William Davison, Esq., who died in 1702. The living is a vicarage in the patronage of the crown, and valued at £5 6s. 8d. In 1821, this parish contained 34 houses, and 165 inhabitants. Utterby.

WYHAM, seven miles north westward from Louth, contained in 1821, 11 houses, and 107 inhabitants, including the hamlet of Cadeby. The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is a small mean edifice. The living is a rectory valued at £8. Sir Thomas Ellis, of Wyham, was created baronet 30th June, 1660: the title is now extinct. Wyham cum Cadeby.

The WAPENTAKE of WALSHCROFT, is bounded on the north by Yarborough and Bradley, Haverstoe Wapentakes; on the east by Ludborough, and Louth Eske Wapentakes; on the South by Lawress and Wraggoe Wapentakes; and on the west by Aslacoe, and a small part of Wraggoe Wapentakes. It is divided into eastern and western divisions. Walshcroft. Wapentake

The EASTERN DIVISION contains the town of Market Rasen, and the villages of Binbrook St. Gabriel, Binbrook St. Mary, Croxby, Linwood, Rasen Middle, Stainton-le-Vale, Tealby, Thoresway, Thorganby, Walesby, and Willingham North. Eastern Division.

BINBROOK is a considerable village, containing two parishes, and is situated in a low Binbrook.

BOOK IV. valley on the river Ancholme, near the centre of the wolds It is distant about eight miles north eastward from Market Rasen, twelve miles south westward from Grimsby, eight miles south eastward from Caistor, and ten miles north westward from Louth. At this place a weekly market was formerly held on Wednesday, but about the middle of the eighteenth century it became unfrequented and was in consequence abolished

Churches Each of the parishes contains a church. One of these dedicated to St Gabriel, is a small mean building in ruins although it possesses fifty-four acres and a half of land, which was bequeathed for the purpose of keeping it in repair, but the rent is now applied in aid of the poor rate The manor of this parish is held by E. Turner, Esq, under a lease from the dean and chapter of Lincoln

The living is a vicarage valued at £8 and is in the patronage of the Prebendary of Milton in the county of Oxford.

The church of St Mary is a small building containing nothing whatever of interest. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £10 4s. 2d, and is in the patronage of the crown *

Priory A priory of nuns of the Premonstratensian order was founded at Irford, or Orford an extra parochial hamlet situated on the north-west of this parish It was built and endowed by William De Albini, in the reign of Henry II, and was dedicated to the virgin Mary. It contained only six or eight religious persons at the dissolution of monasteries when its annual revenues were valued at £13 19s. 9d by Dugdale, and at £14 13s 4d by Speed In the year 1539 the site was granted to Robert Tyrwhitt The building is now entirely demolished.

Orford makes the following payments annually to the parish of Binbrook St Gabriel — to the vicar seven shillings, to the constable ten shillings and to the parish clerk two shillings and six pence In 1821 the united parishes of Binbrook contained 153 houses and 790 inhabitants and at the same period the extra parochial hamlet of Orford had 3 houses, and 14 inhabitants. Binbrook has an annual fair on Easter Tuesday.

Croxby CROXBY is situated about five miles south-eastward from Caistor, it is a depopulated village containing in 1821, only 6 houses and 67 inhabitants. The manor is the property of Lord Yarborough. The church is a small uninteresting edifice dedicated to All Saints the living is a vicarage valued at £6 4s 2d and is in the patronage of the crown.

Linwood The village of LINWOOD is situated two miles south-eastward from Market Rasen The church dedicated to St Cornelius, is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £16 4s. 2d In 1821, the population of this village was 26 houses, and 138 inhabitants.

Market Rasen MARKET RASEN is situated at the distance of about sixteen miles north-eastward from Lincoln, and fifteen and a half, north-westward from Louth It stands near the source of the River Ancholme on a small stream called the Rase, from which it derives its name. The town consists of one long street disposed on the sides of the road leading from Louth to Gainsborough which is intersected at right angles by two smaller streets in the road from Wragby to Caistor The market is on Tuesday, and the fairs are on every other Tuesday after Palm Sunday, for horned cattle, horses and sheep, on the 25th of September

* The abbot and monks of St. Mary's at York gave to the priory of Romburgh, in Cambridgeshire (cell to that abbey) at the foundation thereof the church of St Mary, at Binbrooke. Dugdale's Monasticon, p 401.

The inhabitants of the town being chiefly engaged in agriculture, derive considerable advantage from the cattle shows and fairs.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Thomas the Apostle, consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a western tower; the upper windows of the latter of which are of a very peculiar form. They have a pointed arch divided into two pointed lights, and a quartrefoil head; up the centre is a strong mullion, crossed by a transom, terminating at the imposts. On the south side of the tower is a representation of Adam and Eve under the branches of a fruit tree, on the trunk of which is the dart of death, alluding to the effects of the forbidden fruit. It may be observed that the tower of the church of Yarborough, near Louth, contains similar windows, and a similar sculptured stone. Both churches, it is probable were erected about the same period. The living is a vicarage valued at £10, and is in the patronage of the Crown. By the endowment the vicar is entitled to the unusual tithe of ale.

Chapels. Besides the church there are three other places of worship in the town · a Catholic chapel built in 1824, an Independent chapel erected in 1821, and a Methodist Meeting house completed in the year 1800.

Hospital. In this town is an hospital, founded and endowed by sir George St. Paul, of the neighbouring village of Snarford. By his will, dated the 13th of October 1612, he gave £40 per annum out of his lands in this county, for the maintenance of eight poor men, and also £100 to erect a building for their residence. This work he left to be performed by his daughter, Lady Frances St. Paul, afterwards Countess of Warwick, who not only carried the design into execution, but also at her own costs furnished four outward rooms, and four inward rooms, with necessaries proper for its inhabitants, and an upper chamber for such as might be ill, together with another upper room furnished with desks, tables, and chairs, and put certain books therein, causing the same to be chained with iron chains, to remain for the use of the minister and schoolmaster of the parish. The original building is remaining.

National School. In Willingham Street is the National School, erected in 1824. At the same time the revenues of the free school, amounting to about £25 per annum, was consolidated with this charity. Here are also Sunday Schools attached to the Independent and Methodist chapels.

Bridge. A new county Bridge was built over the river Rase, near the church, in the year 1832. It is constructed of brick and stone, with iron palisades. The span of the arch is twenty feet, and the road way twenty-two feet. The cost was £613. Architect J. S. Padley, Esq., Builder and contractor, Mr. John Broadgate.

In 1821, this parish contained 243 houses, and 1166 inhabitants.

Middle Rasen. Middle Rasen derives its name from being situated on the river Rase, between the town of Market Rasen and the village of West Rasen, from each of which it is about a mile and a half distant. This village is divided into two parishes distinguished by the different appellations of Tupholme and Drax, each of which possesses a church. The latter place had an abbey of premonstratensian canons, dedicated to the virgin Mary, founded by Alan de Neville, and his brother Gilbert in the latter end of the reign of Henry II.; in which at the time of the dissolution, were nine monks, who, according to Speed had the annual income of £119 2s. 8d. The site was granted to Sir Thomas Heneage.

St Peter's Church. The church of Tupholme is dedicated to St. Peter, and consists of an embattled tower,

BOOK IV.

a nave, which from the projecting arches in the wall, has once had a north aisle, and a chancel. It is entered on the south through a curious porch, with zig-zag, nailhead, and other mouldings. The chancel is separated from the nave by an elegant screen work, beneath a pointed arch, supported by Norman circular pillars, perhaps coeval with the door-way. The floor of the chancel contains two grave stones, with mutilated inscriptions, and against the north wall is a small, but well executed monument to the memory of John Dixon, Esq., his wife Letitia, and three children.

To the church of St. Peter, Gilbert de Bland, gave among other donations, one part of his meadows in Lissingly. This, which contains between five and six hundred acres of very wet land, was once, according to tradition, a park belonging to Sir John Burlingthorpe, and granted him by royal favour. This is said to have been conferred as a reward for his courage and prowess, in attacking and slaying a dragon, which infested the neighbourhood.*

Drax Church.

The other church, denominated Drax; consists of a tower, nave, and chancel, but does not possess any architectural interest. In the wall of the chancel, under an arch, is a tomb, whereon is sculptured the recumbent figure of a female, holding a chalice in her left hand. It is stated that both the abbot and convent of Tupholme, and the prior and convent of Drax, in Yorkshire, laid claim to the appropriation of the church of St. Peter; whereupon a contest ensued about the tithes of corn and hay, arising out of six oxgangs and a half of land, called Germayn land, of the fee of John Paganel, within the limits of the tithing of this parish, but it was agreed, that two parts of the tithe of this land should be paid to the abbot and convent of Tupholme, and that the prior and convent of Drax, should have the remaining third part thereof. From this decision it is conjectured that the two parishes obtained the names which they have kept to this day.†

In this town the river Rase is crossed by an ancient stone foot bridge, corresponding in architecture to those at West Rasen, which we shall notice under that head.

At the distance of about a mile and a half from the town, is a neat bridge of brick and stone, with iron palisades, erected in the early part of the present year (1833.)

In 1821, the two parishes of Tupholme and Drax, contained 101 houses, and 508 inhabitants.

Stainton le Vale.

STAINTON-LE-VALE, not unfrequently called Stainton-in-the-hole, is a small village, at the distance of about six miles north-eastward from Market Rasen. The church, which is dedicated to St Andrew, is a small modernized structure; the living is a rectory, valued at £4 17s. 6d.; and is in the patronage of the Crown.

Tealby.

TEALBY, is a large village at the distance of about four miles north-eastward from Market Rasen. It is situated on the side of a hill, from whence several streams of water issue, which

* A similar story is related of Sir Hugh Bardolph, who is said to have slain another at Walmsgate. These *Draconculi*, or *Dragon-slayers*, were men, who by their skill or liberality, carried on works of drainage, and other improvements in their respective neighbourhoods, by which the floods and tides being prevented from continually inundating the lands, the head of these *hydra monsters* were cut off, and prevented from again terrifying the people by their ominous and unwelcome appearance.

† William Paganel, the founder of Drax priory, in the Ainsty of York, in the time of Henry I., gave the church of Middle Rasen, which Pope Innocent III., in the 7th year of his Pontificate, A. D. 1215, appropriated to this priory; the canons paying 20 marks per annum to the vicar; which was confirmed by Richard and Thomas, bishops of Lincoln.—*Burton's Monasticon, Ebor. p* 109.

uniting, form the river Rase. The church is a spacious edifice, dedicated to All Saints, and consisting of a tower, nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel. In it is a memorial of Ann, widow of Michael Tennyson, who died in 1811, aged 60. The living is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at £6 16s. 8d., and is in the patronage of the earl of Scarborough. Here is the seat of C. Tennyson, Esq., M. P. for the borough of Lambeth.

Antiquities.

In the year 1807, a man ploughing in a field in this parish, turned up a glazed earthen vessel, of coarse workmanship, which was found to contain upwards of six thousand silver pennies of the reign of Henry II. The coins were of various mints, many bearing the names of towns, where it was not previously known that money was ever struck. A selection of these coins were deposited in the British Museum; others went to enrich private collections, and the remainder were melted down at the mint. They were discovered in what, but a few years before, was an open field, on the highest part of the wolds; a road formerly passed near the spot, which is a rising ground, supposed to be an ancient tumulus.

In this village are several paper-mills. In the year 1821, the parish of Tealby contained 167 houses, and 705 inhabitants.

Thoresway.

The village of THORESWAY is distant about five miles south eastward from Caistor. In the reign of Charles I., it was the property of Sir John Colepeper, who was by that monarch honoured with the title of Baron Colepeper of Thoresway, as a reward for having exposed himself in the royal cause, at the battles of Edgehill, and Newbury. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, possesses no particular claim to attention; the living is a rectory, valued at £8 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the Crown. In 1821, the population of this village was 19 houses, and 116 inhabitants.

Thorganby.

THORGANBY, about six miles and a half south-eastward from Caistor, was anciently a seat of the Willoughby's, and subsequently the residence of Lord Middleton. Situated on an eminence, the house commands a view over the vale, to Swinhop. Some fine old timber gives this place a sylvan feature, which is rarely seen on the Wolds. The grounds behind the house are finely varied, and the declivous sides terminate in a narrow vale, through which runs a small trout stream.

The church is a very small mean structure, dedicated to All Saints. The living is a rectory valued at £6 0s. 10d. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 17 houses, and 102 inhabitants.

Walesby.

WALESBY, is distant about two miles and a half north-eastward from Market Rasen. The church, dedicated to All Saints, stands on a commanding eminence to the east of the village. It is a small building, but appears from the arches in the north wall, to have been of Saxon or Norman foundation. In 1829, several important repairs were executed, at which time it was new roofed and paved. Here are several handsome monuments, some of which belong to the Hacket family. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £23 18s. 1d. In 1821, this parish, including the hamlet of Otby, contained 47 houses, and 239 inhabitants.

North Willingham.

The village of NORTH WILLINGHAM is situated on the south western side of the Wolds, about three miles and a half, east from Market Rasen. The church, which is dedicated to St. Thomas the Apostle, is a modern structure, having an ancient tower at its western end. Under the chancel, and occupying its whole seite, is a spacious mausoleum, belonging to

BOOK IV. the Boucherett family. The living is a vicarage, rated at £5 4s. 4d., and is in the patronage of A. Boucherett, Esq.

Willingham house is the seat of Ayscough Boucherett, Esq. It is an elegant mansion, erected in 1790, two miles westward of the site of the old mansion.

Western Division. The WESTERN DIVISION of Walshcroft wapentakes, contains the villages of Claxby, Holton-le-Moor, South Kelsey, Kingerby, Kirkby with Osgodby, Newton, Normanby, Owersby, West Rasen, Thornton-le-Moor, Toft, and Usselby.

Claxby. CLAXBY is situated about three miles and a half to the north of Market Rasen. Here was once the seat of a family named Witherwick, afterwards occupied by the Markhams.

The church is a neat edifice, dedicated to St. Mary. In the chancel is a tomb, above which are the kneeling figures of a man and two women, with an inscription to John Witherwick, Esq., who died in 1595, leaving by his second wife, Judith his only daughter and heir. On the floor are brasses with inscriptions to William Fitzwilliam, Esq., who died in 1653; to Mary, his daughter, wife of John Monson, Esq., of Northorpe, who died in 1638; and to Jane, the wife of Richard Burnaby, and daughter of John Monson, Esq., who died in 1658. Under an arch in the north wall of the chancel is an ancient tomb on which is a sculptured stone without any inscription. The living is a rectory, valued at £8 10s. 10d.

Antiquities. In digging a few years since, near the west end of the church, a piece of tesselated pavement was discovered at the depth of three feet; it was about five feet square, and composed of blue and white tesseræ disposed in oblong figures of about four inches by two. At a short distance east of the church is a tumulus.

The ancient manor house is destroyed, and a modern building erected on its site. The manor belongs to Lord Yarborough. In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 30, and of inhabitants 184.

Holton le Moor. HOLTON-LE-MOOR is distant about three miles and a half south-west from Caistor. The church, is a ruinous structure. In this parish is an immense rabbit warren. By the population returns of 1821, this parish contained at that period, 20 houses, and 135 inhabitants.

South Kelsey. The village of SOUTH KELSEY is situated at the distance of about six miles north-west from Caistor. It formerly consisted of two parishes which are now united, one of the churches, that dedicated to St. Mary, having been destroyed many years ago. The other church, dedicated to St Nicholas, is a neat modern structure, attached to an ancient tower. In the floor are the effigies in brass of a man in armour, and a woman, the inscription surrounding which is gone. The living is a rectory valued at £7 10s. 10d.

The manor was anciently the estate of the Hansards, from whom it passed by marriage to the Ayscoughs, one of whose descendants the unfortunate Ann Ayscough, a native of this place suffered martyrdom in the reign of king Henry VIII. In this village is a free school with an endowment. At Wengall, a hamlet belonging to this parish, was a priory, dedicated to St. John, subordinate to the abbey of Sees in Normandy, it became part of the endowment of Trinity College, Cambridge, but was afterwards exchanged with Sir Thomas Monson.

In 1821, the parish of South Kelsey contained 120 houses, and 623 inhabitants.

Kingerby. The little village of KINGERBY is distant about six miles north-west from Market Rasen; on a branch of the river Ancholme. The church is a small structure dedicated to St. Peter. In the floor of the chancel is a stone, on which is sculptured in low relief the figure of a

man in armour, and against the entrance are two figures which have been removed from the tombs to which they formerly belonged. The living is a vicarage, valued at £5.

In this village is an hospital for six poor people, founded and endowed in 1675, by Mr. Thomas Bell, the endowment amounts to eight pounds annually to each poor person. In 1821, this parish contained 11 houses, and 84 inhabitants.

Kirkby cum Osgodby.

KIRKBY, or KIRKBY CUM OSGODBY, is situated about five miles and a half north-westward from Market Rasen. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, though a modernized structure, appears from the windows of the tower, to have been built previous to the introduction of the pointed arch.* In the chancel are two tombs, on one of which is the effigy of a man in armour, with a hare at his feet, and in the other that of a female; from the time-worn inscriptions they appear to be the effigies of John Wildebor, and Margaret his wife. This living is a vicarage valued at £8. 18s. 4d., and is in the patronage of Lord Monson.

In this village was born Thomas Goodrich, bishop of Ely, in the reign of Henry VIII., and Lord Chancellor in the reign of Edward VI.; he was a promoter of the protestant religion, but after the death of the latter monarch, he resigned his see to Stephen Gardiner, and died on the 10th of May 1554.

United to this parish is the hamlet of Osgodby in which was born William Aylmer, who was lord Chancellor, and bishop of Norwich, from 1325 to 1336.

According to the census taken in 1821, this parish contained 40 houses, and 214 inhabitants.

Newton.

NEWTON is situated about four miles and a half west from Market Rasen. Though a separate constablewick, Newton is only a hamlet in the parish of Toft. The living is a vicarage valued at £4. 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the earl of Scarborough. The church is dedicated to St. Michael. In 1821, Newton contained 13 houses, and 70 inhabitants.

Normanby.

NORMANBY, called also Normanby on the Wolds, is about four miles north-eastward from Market Rasen. The church is a small uninteresting edifice, dedicated to St. Peter. The living is a rectory valued at £9. 10s. 10d. The parish, in 1821 contained 16 houses, and 96 inhabitants.

Owersby.

The village of NORTH OWERSBY is situated about six miles and a half to the north-west of Market Rasen. The church, which is dedicated to St. Martin, consists of a nave, chancel, and tower. The living is a vicarage, rated at £8. 18s. 4d., and is in the patronage of lord Monson. In 1821, this village, with the adjacent hamlet of South Owersby, contained 66 houses, and 408 inhabitants.

West Rasen.

WEST RASEN is situated at the distance of about three miles westward from Market Rasen, on the turnpike road between that place and Gainsborough. This village derives its name from the river Rase, which passes through it and falls into the Ancholme, at a very ancient stone bridge, called Bishop's bridge, on the western extremity of this parish. This bridge, which consists of two Gothic arches, was probably erected by one of the bishop's of Lincoln, who it is supposed held the adjoining manor of Bishop Norton. This ancient structure fell down in 1831, but has since been temporally repaired, and is to be rebuilt in the course of this year, (1834.) Another ancient bridge crosses the stream in the village.

* Weir's Lincolnshire, page 224.

Church.

The church, which has been considerably contracted in dimensions, by the north aisle being taken away, appears from the circular arches remaining in the wall to have been originally of Saxon or Norman foundation; its tower is surmounted by four pinnacles terminating in embattled coronals. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £19 10s. 10d. The church is dedicated to All Saints. In 1821, this parish contained 37 houses, and 210 inhabitants.

Thornton le Moor.

THORNTON LE MOOR, which derives its name from the moory soil in which it is situated, is distant about seven miles and a half north-westward from Caistor. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small edifice, which is entered on the south through a door-way of Saxon architecture, ornamented with zig-zag and other mouldings. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £9. 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Ely. This parish in 1821, contained 13 houses and 115 inhabitants.

Toft.

The little village of TOFT is situated at the distance of about four miles westward from Market Rasen. The church is a small mean structure, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. The living is a rectory, valued at £9. 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821, the parish contained 12 houses, and 65 inhabitants.

Usselby.

USSELBY is a small village about three miles north-westward from Market Rasen, on the road between that place and Caistor. The manor was the property and seat of the Elliots from whom it descended to a family named Hawcock.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small modernized structure. In the chancel is a tablet inscribed to the memory of Major General Joseph Bilcliffe, who died in 1809, and of his mother and brother, the periods of whose decease are not recorded. The living is a perpetual curacy. In 1821, this parish contained 11 houses, and 75 inhabitants. It is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster.

CHAPTER VI.

WAPENTAKES OF MANLEY, YARBOROUGH, AND BRADLEY HAVERSTOE.

The WAPENTAKE of MANLEY occupies the north-western extremity of the county, and is subdivided into three parts which are denominated the west, north, and south divisions. West Division

The WEST DIVISION, or *Isle of Axholme*, contains the market towns of Epworth and Crowle, with the villages of Althorpe, Amscott, Belton, Butterwick west, East Toft, Garthorpe, Haxey, Keadby, Luddington, Owston, and Wroot. It is bounded on the east by the river Trent, on the north and west by the Don, and on the south by the Idle; it is ten miles in length and six in breadth, and contains about 37,800, acres of land. Isle of Axholme.

EPWORTH is a long straggling town, situated at the distance of about twenty-nine miles north-west from Lincoln, and 158 miles north-west from London. The principal branch of trade is the dressing of flax and hemp, a great quantity of which grows in the neighbourhood; and the manufacture of sacking and canvass is carried on to a considerable extent. The market is on Tuesday: the fairs on the first Thursday after May 1st., and September 29th. for cattle, hemp, and flax. Epworth

The manor of Epworth, together with the chief part of the lands in the Isle, were given by William the Conqueror, to Nigel D'Albini, whose descendants assumed the surname of Mowbray; but on that family becoming extinct, these estates reverted to the crown, to which they still belong. A portion of the manor, however is the property of W. Johnson, Esq. of Temple Belwood near Belton, who holds courts leets twice in the year, in a building erected for that purpose in the market place. Manor.

Here was anciently the residence of the Mowbray family, who had a castellated mansion of which there are no remains except the site, where within the last half century were dug up some of the cannon belonging to the fortifications.

The living is a rectory in the archdeanery of Stow, rated in the king's books at £28. 16s. 8d. and is in the patronage of the crown. The church which is dedicated to St. Andrew, consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel and a tower. The arched entrance to the north porch is richly varied by trefoil flexures, that give it an air of lightness and beauty; and within this porch are two shields, one of which is charged with a rampant lion, the bearing of the Mowbrays; the other with a sheaf on a plain shield, the bearing of the Sheffields. Amongst the communion plate, the vessel used as the patten is curious; it is of maple, having a broad rim of silver gilt, the diameter of which is nearly ten inches; at the bottom is a large silver button of about three inches diameter, ornamented with a St. Andrew's cross, and figures representing a holy family, surrounded by a moulding ornamented with rays of glory. Church.

Mr. Weir suggests that this may have been originally a wassail bowl, and presented to the church by one of the Mowbray family.*

This benefice was held for thirty nine years, by the Rev. Samuel Wesley, A.M., who died in 1735, aged 72, and lies buried under a table tomb in the church yard.

In this town are places of worship for Baptists, the Society of Friends, the Old and New connexion of Methodists, and Primitive Methodists.

Free School. A Free School was founded and endowed at this place by certain inhabitants, in the year 1694. The whole emolument amounts to about £40 per annum, for which the master is required to teach fourteen boys, reading only; any further instruction is paid for.

Monastery. A Carthusian monastery was founded here in the reign of Richard II., by Thomas Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham, and Earl Marshal of England, the revenue of which at the dissolution was valued at £290. 11s. 7d.

Quantities of large oaks, with acorns, fir, and other kinds of trees, some of which appear to have been burnt, and others cut down, have been frequently found at the depth of three feet beneath the surface in this neighbourhood.

John and Charles Wesley, the celebrated founders of the Arminian Methodists, and sons of the Rev. Samuel Wesley, were born here, the former in June 1703, and the latter in December 1708. Mr. Alexander Kilham, founder of a class of seceders from that sect, called Kilhamites, was also a native of this place.†

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 280 houses, and 1502 inhabitants.

Crowle. CROWLE is situated in the north-west extremity of the Isle of Axholme, near the river Don, and within a mile of the Stainforth and Keadby canal, which passes it on the north. The market, formerly on Saturday, has been discontinued; but from March till the end of May, a market for sheep and cattle is held every alternate Monday, and there are fairs held on the first Monday in May, and November 22nd for cattle, flax, and hemp. The county magistrates hold here a petty session for the division; and constables are appointed at the court leet of the lord of the manor.

Church. The living is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £14. 10s. The church, dedicated to St. Oswald, appears, from a fine circular headed doorway on the south side, to have been originally a Saxon structure, but from the extensive repairs which it has undergone, little of its ancient architecture is remaining. Here are also places of worship for Independents and Wesleyan Methodists.

A charity school, for teaching poor children reading, writing, and arithmetic, is partly supported by subscription, and by an endowment of £60. per annum, arising from various bequests. There are about thirty children in the school.

In 1747, the body of a woman was found in an erect position in the peat moor, near the town, at the depth of six feet beneath the surface; from the sandals on her feet it appeared to have been there several centuries; the hair and nails were entire, and the skin, though discoloured, was soft, and apparently sound.

In 1821, Crowle, with the adjacent hamlet of Ealand, contained 295 houses, and 1729 inhabitants.

* Weir's Lincolnshire p. 157.

† Memoirs of these persons will be given in the Appendix.

CHAP VI.

Althorpe.

ALTHORPE is situated on the western side of the Trent, at the distance of about five miles from Epworth. The living is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £25., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £400 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the crown. The church, dedicated to St. Oswald, was first built in the reign of Edward IV., by Sir John Neville, whose arms and crest are sculptured on a stone in the west part of the steeple.

According to the returns of 1821; Althorpe, with the hamlet of Derrythorpe, contained 45 houses, and 346 inhabitants.

John Langley, a native of this place, was Lord Mayor of London in the year 1576.

Amcotts.

AMCOTTS, though a separate constablewick, is a hamlet in the parish of Althorpe, from which village it is distant about three miles northward. Its chapel, which is a small mean edifice, is dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket. In 1821, the number of houses in this hamlet was 45, and of inhabitants 346.

Belton.

BELTON is situated at the distance of about two miles north from Epworth, and about four miles southward from Crowle. This parish, which is very extensive, includes the hamlets of Hirst, Sandtoft, Beltoft, Temple Belwood, and part of Hatfield Chase, and in 1821, contained 289 houses, and 1437 inhabitants.

Church.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the corporation of the city of Lincoln. The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, consists of a tower, a nave with aisles, and a chancel, the architecture of which may be referred to the period of Henry VII. In the wall, on the south side of the chancel, are three stone stalls, and a piscina; and in the centre of the chancel is a tomb, on which is laid the figure in stone, of a knight in armour.

Hirst.

At the hamlet of HIRST, about two miles north from the village of Belton, was a cell of Black canons of St. Austin, annexed to Nostell abbey, in the county of York, valued at £5 10s. 1d. Of the Buildings no remains exist, but a dwelling house now stands near its site, which bears the name of Hirst Priory, and is the seat of C. Stovin, Esq.

Sandtoft.

The hamlet of Sandtoft, distant about two miles west from Belton, was, with several fisheries upon the borders of Yorkshire, given by Roger de Mowbray, in the beginning of the reign of Henry II., to the abbey of St. Mary at York. To this estate was joined another contiguous, called Henes, which had before been given to the same abbey, by William, Earl Warren, and a small Benedictine cell to the abbey was settled at Sandtoft. To whom its possessions were granted at the dissolution, is not recorded, and no remains of the buildings are to be found.

In the time of Charles I. a church for the Dutch and French protestants, who were brought over by Cornelius Vermuden, to assist in the drainage of this part, was erected at Sandtoft, together with a house for the minister. During the riots raised by the commoners in opposition to the undertaking of Vermuden this church was much injured, and it does not appear to have existed for any great length of time, as it only had five ministers. According to the registers, many were baptized, married, and buried here, and the females retained their maiden names after marriage.

Temple Belwood.

The hamlet of TEMPLE BELWOOD is situated on the east side of Belton, where, embosomed in an extensive grove, is the elegant mansion of W. Johnson, Esq.

West Butterwick and Kelfield.

The hamlet of WEST BUTTERWICK and KELFIELD, both of which are contained in the parish of Owston, form a distinct constablewick, which contained in 1821, 120 houses, and

BOOK VI. 669 inhabitants. About the reign of Henry VII., Butterwick became the seat of the Sheffields, one of which family in the reign of Edward VI., was created Lord Sheffield of Butterwick, and who was slain in attempting to suppress a rebellion in Norfolk. His descendants afterwards become Earls of Mulgrave, and subsequently had the titles of Marquis of Normanby, and Duke of Buckingham, conferred on them.

About the year 1630, the chapel of Butterwick was pulled down, and the materials employed in building a bridge over the river Ancholme, Another chapel was afterwards erected in this place, which is a mean structure ; it is dedicated to St Mary. The living is a perpetual curacy endowed with £2000 parliamentary grant, and is in the patronage of the vicar of Owston.

East Toft. EAST TOFT is situated about four miles north-eastward from Crowle, of which parish it is a hamlet. In 1821, it contained 34 houses, and 232 inhabitants. It is a separate constablewick.

Garthorpe. GARTHORPE is a hamlet in the parish of Luddington, from which it is distant about two miles northward. In 1821 it contained 83 houses, and 388 inhabitants.

Haxey. HAXEY, whence the river island of Axholme derives its name; Camden says, "was anciently called *Axel*." By the returns made to parliament in 1821, it appears that the place then consisted of 370 houses, and 1888 inhabitants. This of course includes the hamlets of Burnham, Craislound, Eastlound, Nethergate, Newbigg, Park, and Westwoodside.

Castle. Here is the site of a castle which once belonged to the Mowbrays, formerly lords of this neighbourhood, but the building was demolished in the baronial wars. Leland says, "there was a castell at the south side of the church garth of *Oxtun*, whereof no peace now standeth; the dike and the hill where the *arx* stoode may yet be seene. it was sumtyme caullid Kinard.*

Church. The living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £20. 17s. 8½d. and is in the patronage of the Archbishop of York. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is in the latter style of English architecture, and consists of a tower and nave with aisles, to which is attached a modern brick chancel and vestry. On the north side of the nave is a chapel, separated from the aisle by a handsome carved oak screen. This chapel contains a range of benches, rising one behind another, exquisitely carved. On a board in the vestry is an account of the damages which this place once sustained by a very extensive fire. On a small green at the east end of the village, is a shaft, which once supported a cross.

Antiquities. In August, 1802, a statue of oak about six feet high, and as black as ebony, was found several feet deep near this place. It represented a Roman warrior with a bow slung over his shoulder, and an arrow in one hand. It was claimed by a variety of workmen who were digging at the time it was found, and in consequence of passing through a variety of hands, became mutilated. Coins and other Roman remains, are frequently found in the low grounds, in various parts of the Isle.

Ancient Customs. At this place old twelfth day is devoted to "throwing the hood" an amusement which, according to tradition, was instituted by one of the Mowbray's. A roll of canvass, tightly corded together, from four to six pounds in weight, is taken to an open field, and contended for by the rustics. An individual appointed, casts it from him, and the first person that can convey it into the cellar of any public house, receives the reward of one shilling, paid by the

* Leland's Itin. Vol. 1. fol. 40 and 41.

plough bullocks, or boggins. A new hood being furnished when the others are carried off, the contest usually continues till dark.

The next day the plough bullocks, or boggins, go round the town collecting alms and crying "largess." They are dressed like morris dancers, and are yoked to, and drag a small plough. They have their farmer, and a fool called Billy Buck, dressed like a harlequin, with whom the boys make sport. The day is concluded by the bullocks running with the plough round the cross on the green, and the man that can throw the others down, and convey the plough into the cellar of a public house, receives one shilling for his agility.

Luddington. LUDDINGTON, on the river Don, which divides this county from Yorkshire, fifteen miles west from Barton on Humber, contained in 1821, 77 houses, and 462 inhabitants. The living is a vicarage, valued at £8., and is in the patronage of the archbishop of York. The church, dedicated to St. Oswald, is a mean uninteresting edifice.

Owston. OWSTON, on the banks of the Trent, is situated at the distance of about three miles south-east from Epworth, and contained in 1821, with the hamlets of Gunthorpe, Heckdyke, Kelfield, and Mellwood Park, 194 houses, and 1300 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Martin is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £19. 10s., and is in the patronage of the Crown,

Priory. Near Mellwood Park, formerly a seat of the Mowbrays, was a Carthusian priory, founded about the year 1395, by Thomas Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham, and Earl Marshall, who was afterwards Duke of Norfolk: it went by the name of "the Priory in the Wood," or "the house of the visitation of the Blessed Virgin, near Epworth. In the church of this monastery, John Mowbray, second duke of Norfolk, was buried in 1432. The yearly revenues at the dissolution were £237. 15s. 2d.; and the site was granted in 1340, to John Candish, who, according to Leland, "turned the monastrie to a goodly place."

Wroot. WROOT is situated on the west side of the Isle of Axholme at the distance of about five miles westward from Epworth. The living is a rectory valued at £3. 7s. 8d., and is in the patronage of the Crown. The church dedicated to St. Pancras, is a modern structure, having been rebuilt on the old site in the year 1796. In the year 1706, a school was founded at this place by Mr. Henry Travis, for the education of poor children, in the parishes of Wroot, Thorn, and Hatfield, and for furnishing them with a necessary supply of school books. The number of houses in 1821 was 54, and of inhabitants 285.

East Division. The EAST DIVISION of the wapentake of Manley contains the villages of Ashby, Bottesford, Broughton, Brumby, Burringham, Butterwick east, Castlethorpe, Froddingham, Hibalstow, Manby, Manton, Messingham, Redbourn, Scawby, Scunthorpe, Waddingham, and Yaddlethorpe.

Ashby. ASHBY is a hamlet in the parish of Bottesford, which in 1821, contained 58 houses, and 228 inhabitants. It is distant about one mile north from Bottesford, and is a separate constablewick.

Bottesford. BOTTESFORD is situated at the distance of about eight miles west from Brigg. The living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £10., and is in the patronage of the Bishop, and Dean, and Chapter of Lincoln, alternately. The church which is dedicated to St. Peter, is an ancient structure in the form of a cross, with a tower at the west end; the chancel is very lofty, and contains narrow lancet shaped windows. The north side of the transept used formerly to be attached to the manor of Holme, in this parish, and still retains the name of Holme choir.

BOOK V. In the winter of 1786-7, as some labourers were digging clay in a brick yard, in this parish, about nine feet from the surface, they discovered the head and horns of an animal of the bull kind, of most extraordinary dimensions. There was a cavity in the clay in which the body of the animal is supposed to have been; and on each side was a large piece of an oak tree, as black as ebony. Parts of the horn, near the tip, were completely petrified.

Manor of Holme. The MANOR of HOLME was once the property and seat of a family named Morley, now extinct, who formerly inherited large possessions in this county; but in consequence of their adherence to the Catholic faith, after the reformation, they became objects of persecution, and endured fines and sequestrations, until their inheritance was quite gone.

In 1821 this parish contained 19 houses, and 71 inhabitants.

Broughton. BROUGHTON, or Barrow-town, was probably so called from a large barrow or tumulus adjacent to the west end of the village; it is situated on the Roman road from Lincoln to the Humber at Winteringham, at the distance of about three miles north-westward from Brigg. This was unquestionably a Roman station, and in the reign of the emperor Arcadius and Honorius, about the year 400, the prefect of the Dalmatian horse, was stationed here. Horsley, seems inclined to fix at this place the Roman station, named *Pretorium*. Numerous coins, bricks, tiles, and other Roman remains, have at various times been found here, and in the neighbourhood.

Manor. The manor was in possession of a family named Radford, for several generations, until the year 1455, when Sir Henry Radford, being engaged in rebellion with the earl of Rutland, lord Clifford, and others, lost it by attainder for high treason. It was afterwards given to the Andersons, of which family was Sir Edmund Anderson, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, *temp* Queen Elizabeth.

Church. The living is a rectory valued at £21., and is in the patronage of the Rev. Sir C. J. Anderson, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, has been extensively repaired. It consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower, to the west end of which is attached a circular turret, containing a winding staircase. Beneath an obtusely pointed arch on the north side of the chancel, is a tomb, on which are laid the figures in alabaster of a man in armour, and a female, but without any inscription. On the floor by the side of this tomb, is a slab, containing the brass effigies of a man in armour, and a female, both of whom hold their hearts in their hands; around the verge has been an inscription, which, with shields at the corners, are destroyed. On the north side of the chancel is a chapel, containing numerous memorials of the Anderson family, who are interred in a vault beneath; one of these monuments is embellished with an alabaster figure, in a reclining posture.

In 1821, Broughton, including the hamlets of Manby, and Castlethorpe, contained 127 houses, and 726 inhabitants.

Nunnery. To the north-west of this parish is the manor of Gokewell, where, previous to the year 1185, a Cistertian nunnery was founded by William de Alta Ripa. At the dissolution it was valued at £16. 12s. 10d. It was granted in the thirteenth year of Henry VIII., to Sir William Tyrwhit. Of the edifice a door-way only is now remaining, which is contained in a farm house, on its site.

Brumby. BRUMBY is situated about one mile southward from Froddingham, of which parish it is a hamlet, although a separate constablewick.

EAST BURRINGHAM is a hamlet and constablewick in the parish of Bottesford, from whence it is distant about three miles north-west. In 1821 it contained 58 houses, and 338 inhabitants. Burringham east.

EAST BUTTERWICK, though a separate constablewick, is only a hamlet in the parish of Messingham, from which it is distant about two miles westward. In 1821, it contained 47 houses, and 248 inhabitants. Butterwick East.

CASTLETHORPE is a hamlet in the parish of Broughton from which place it is distant about one mile south-east. The return of its population is included with that of Broughton. Castlethorpe

FRODDINGHAM is pleasantly situated upon a bold cliff, overlooking the vale of the Trent, and is distant about nine miles to the south-west of Brigg. Here has been for many years the seat of a family named Healey. Froddingham

This living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £12. 16s. 8d. The church, which is dedicated to St. Lawrence, contains several inscriptions to the Healey's, many of whom are interred here. In 1821, this parish contained 14 houses, and 68 inhabitants.

HIBALDSTOW is situated about four miles south-west from Brigg, on the road from Lincoln to Barton. According to some writers, this village derives its name from Hubba, a Danish commander, who was slain here in one of his predatory incursions, in the ninth century. Others imagine the name to be derived from having been the burial place of St. Hibbald. Hibaldstow.

The Roman road from Lincoln to the Humber passes through this parish, about a mile to the west of the village, near to which the foundations of many Roman buildings have been found, and where, according to tradition, there has been a city, and a castle. From this place having been about an equal distance between Lincoln and the Humber, it is probable that here stood the *In Medium* of the Romans. In another part of this parish, west of the Roman road, the traces of another old town are visible, which, according to tradition, was called Gainstrop, in which place, says the Monasticon, were lands and tenements, given to the priory at Newstead, near Brigg.

The living is a vicarage, valued at £7. 10s. 0d., and is in the patronage of the Sub. Dean of Lincoln. The church, which is dedicated to St. Hibbald, consists of a modern nave attached to an old chancel and tower. Hibaldstow is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster and in 1821, contained 110 houses, and 520 inhabitants. Church.

MANBY is a hamlet in the parish of Broughton from whence it is distant about two miles westward, and forms a distinct constablewick. It contains one of the seats of the Right Honourable Lord Yarborough. Manby

MANTON is about three miles north from Kirton, and about six miles south-west from Brigg. It is a very small village, containing in 1821, only 7 houses, and 48 inhabitants. The living is a rectory valued at £13. 6s. 8d. The church, dedicated to St. Hibbald, is a small modern structure, containing nothing worthy of particular remark. Between this place and Scawby is an ancient encampment. Manton.

MESSINGHAM is situated about eight miles westward from Brigg, on the road from Gainsborough to Winterton. It stands on a gentle declivity of cultivated ground, overlooking that large tract of low land, through which the Trent pours its waters to the Humber. Messingham

This living is a vicarage, valued at £10., and is in the patronage of the Bishop, and the Dean, and Chapter, alternately. In the year 1818 the church being much dilapidated, Dr. Bayley, the vicar, resolved to have the fabric put into a state of repair, and he then agreed with the parishioners, on the payment by them of three hundred pounds, in four annual instal- Church.

BOOK VI. ments, to defray the whole expense of rebuilding the nave and aisles; this he accomplished, at the cost to himself of ***sixteen hundred pounds***. The tower was in good condition, and Mr. Walker, the lessee of the great tithes, liberally undertook to rebuild the chancel at his own cost, upon which he expended two hundred pounds. A very neat church in the old style of architecture, was erected, under the direction of Mr. Wilson, F. A. S. of Lincoln. The inside of the roof was finished with gothic rafters, and panelled between with déal boards. The chancel roof has a peculiarly neat appearance, not only from the beautiful design of the principle supporters, but from its being panelled with narrow boards of English larch. The pulpit was made out of an old canopy from Lincoln Minster, were it formerly stood over three figures, which used to strike the hours and quarters: the carving upon it is in the first style of workmanship. The minister's and clerk's reading-pews, were constructed out of an old desk which had been thrown aside and was decaying with damp, in a vacant part of Althorpe church. The carved work on the door of the ministers pew, and the back of his seat, was taken from an ancient screen, which stood in the south aisle of the old church. The east windows in the chancel, and the east windows in the south aisle are composed of fragments of stained glass, given by several friends to Dr. Bayley. These materials were arranged and put together by Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Bayley, and Mr. Stonehouse, the curate, assisted by a glazier from the neighbouring village of Scotton.* The church is dedicated to All Saints.

A fair is held in this village on Trinity Monday. In 1821, it contained 170 houses, and 855 inhabitants.

Redbourn. REDBOURN is distant about five miles south-west from Brigg, and is situated upon the road from Lincoln to Barton. The manor, which is co-extensive with the parish, was for many years the property of a family named Carter, who had a seat here; but by marriage with the daughter of the last male possessor of that name, the estate became the property of Lord William Beauclerk, afterwards, Duke of St. Albans, who died here in 1825. It is now the property of his successor, the hereditary Grand Falconer of England.

Church. The living of Redbourn is a vicarage, valued at £5. 10s. 0d. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a commodious and handsome edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel with aisles, and a tower. The aisle on the south side of the chancel, is converted into a cemetry, wherein the remains of several of the Carter family are deposited, a corresponding part of the north aisle is used as a vestry. On the north side of the communion table is a stone on which is delineated the figure of a knight in armour, with an angel on each side of his head, under which is an inscription in latin, to Gerard Sotbill, knt., who died in 1401. In a field, adjoining the churchyard, called the Castle Hill, are the foundations of buildings surrounded by a moat.

Priory. On an island in this parish, called Tunstall, a priory of Gilbertine nuns was founded in the reign of king Stephen, by Reginald de Crevequer, which, by his son, Alexander, was united to the priory at Bollington. Of this building no traces remain.

In 1821, Redbourn contained 40 houses, and 270 inhabitants.

Scawby. SCAWBY is a pleasant village situated at the distance of about three miles south-west from Brigg. The living is a vicarage valued at £7. The church, dedicated to St. Hibbald,

* Saturday Magazine, Vol. iii. p. 196.—1833.

consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower, but does not contain any ancient memorial. In 1821, this village with the hamlet of Sturton, contained 164 houses, and 838 inhabitants. Part of the town of Brigg stands in this parish. Scawby contains the seat of Sir Henry Nelthorpe, Bart.

Scunthorpe.

SCUNTHORPE is a hamlet and separate constablewick in the parish of Froddingham, from which it is distant about half a mile northward. In the wall of a house in this hamlet, is a stone, evidently brought from some other building, which contains the following inscription:

ARTES: ARTIFICES
ARTE: PERIRE
SUA : SCRIPTA
MANERE: NEQUIT
LITERA : SCULPTA
MANET ?
PULVERENTULA
DOMUS. SEC
CINIS. OMNIS
HOMO-EST.

In 1821, Scunthorpe contained 37 houses, and 210 inhabitants.

Waddingham.

WADDINGHAM is situated about seven miles southward from Brigg, and formerly contained two parishes, both of which are now united. Of the two churches one only remains which is dedicated to St. Mary; the other, which was dedicated to St. Peter, is entirely gone. In 1821, the number of houses in Waddingham was 64, and of inhabitants 447. It is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster.

Yaddlethorpe.

YADDLETHORPE is a hamlet and constablewick in the parish of Bottesford, from which village it is distant about half a mile on the west. in 1821, it contained 17 houses, and 87 inhabitants.

North Division

The NORTH DIVISION of the wapentake of Manly contains the villages of Appleby, Aukborough, Burton upon Stather, Flixborough, Roxby with Riseby, West Halton, Whitton, Winteringham, and Winterton.

Appleby.

The village of APPLEBY is situated on the Roman road from Lincoln to the Humber, at the distance of about eight miles north-west from Brigg, and about the same distance south-west from Barton. From the remains which have been found at this place it appears, in common with others in the ancient road, to have been occupied by the Romans. Near the Roman road was one of those, called Julian Bowers, but of which no traces are remaining.

Church.

The living is a vicarage valued at £10. 4s. 0d. The church, which is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, is a handsome modern structure consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower. The pulpit and the rails of the communion table are ornamented with some richly carved oak, of ancient workmanship.

Manor.

The Manor was given by Henry II., to his brother, William de Longspee, who afterwards gave it to John de Malherbe; it has for several years been in the possession of a family named Winn, whose seat is in the village.

Roman Pottery.

In this parish and on the west of the Roman road, is the hamlet of Santon, so called from the flying sands there, which have over-run and ruined much of the adjacent land. Amongst

BOOK VI. these sands was in ancient times a Roman pottery, remains of the furnaces, and numerous fragments of urns and pots, together with several Roman coins, having been found there. At the bottom of one of the furnaces was found a large piece of brass, in the shape of a cross, which was probably part of a grate used to set the pots upon, while they were baking or drying. Near the road are several sand hills, somewhat like barrows.

Thornholme Priory. On the east of the Roman road, and opposite to Santon, is the manor or hamlet of Thornholme, where a priory of Augustine canons was founded by king Stephen. At the dissolution it was valued at £155. 19s. 6d. per annum, and was granted in 1538 to Charles Duke of Suffolk. Of the buildings the foundations only are remaining.

In 1821, Appleby, with its hamlets, contained 85 houses, and 534 inhabitants.

Aukborough. AUKBOROUGH, situated on the Humber, is about eleven miles west from Barton. At this place Dr. Stukeley places the Aquis of Ravenas, having discovered a Roman castrum, and a vicinal road. "The Roman castle is square, 300 feet each side, the entrance north, the west side is objected to the steep cliff hanging over the Trent, which here falls into the Humber; for this castle is very conveniently placed in the north-west of Lincolnshire, as a watch-tower over all Nottingham and Yorkshire, which it surveys. I am told the camp is now called *Countess Close*, and they say a countess of Warwick lived there, perhaps owned the estate; but there are no marks of building, nor I believe ever were. The vallum and ditch are very perfect. Before the north entrance is a square plot, called the Green, where, I suppose, the Roman soldiers lay *pro castris*. In it is a round work, formed into a labyrinth, which they call Julian's Bower."*

The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and is a vicarage valued at £10. In 1821 the population was 428, and the number of houses 88.

Burton upon Stather. BURTON upon STATHER, distant about eleven miles south-west from Barton, occupies a commanding situation on the brow of a bold cliff, nearly at the foot of which flows the river Trent, and where is a wharf or staith, converted into the word Stather, which gives the distinction to the village.

Burton upon Stather, was once a town of some consequence, for which the Earl of Lancaster in the eighth year of Edward II., obtained a charter for a weekly market, and for two fairs yearly. For several years the town enjoyed a considerable trade, for which it was well adapted by its situation on the Trent; but the rising superiority of Gainsborough withdrew the trade from the place, in consequence of which its market became entirely unfrequented, and the town dwindled into a mere village. One fair is now held annually here on the 5th of April.

This place is said to have been greatly reduced in its limits, by an extraordinary tempest, which entirely destroyed a number of houses on the side of the cliff, and greatly injured the

* Itinerarium Curiosum, p. 91.

The places, called Julian Bowers, are generally found near roman towns. They are circular works, made of banks of earth, in the form of a maze, or labyrinth; the common people indulge an idea, that they are extraordinary things, and boys often divert themselves by running in their various windings and turnings, through and back again. Dr. Stukeley thinks it was one of the old Roman games, which were brought into Italy from Troy; and that it took the latter name, not from *bower*, an arbour, but from *borough*, any work consisting of earth ramparts; and the former from *Julus*, the sons of Eneas, who introduced it into Italy, according to the account of Virgil, in his fifth Enead.

church. In 1777, the town suffered greatly from a brig, laden with groceries, spirits, and gunpowder, lying off this place, which took fire and blew up with a tremendous explosion; which was heard at the distance of many miles. Several houses were unroofed, and otherwise greatly damaged, and the loss sustained was calculated at £3000.

Church.

The living is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at £12., and is in the patronage of Sir R. Sheffield, bart. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a handsome edifice, consisting of a tower, a nave with aisles, and a chancel. The arches which separate the aisles from the nave, are alternately ornamented with different mouldings. In the eastern window is a painting on glass, by Pearson, representing the Saviour, holding a globe in his right hand, and a sceptre in his left. In a niche on the south side of the chancel is a tomb, on which is the figure of a man in armour, traditionally said to be one of the Sheffields; it is much mutilated, and though the feet are gone, his legs appear to have been laid across. An old sword upon the tomb is supposed to have belonged to this knight. On a marble tablet, in the south wall of the chancel, is recorded that the remains of the five Sheffield's, mentioned in Leland's Itinerary, were, on the printing of that book, rescued from oblivion, and removed from Owston to this place, by the heir of that family, John Earl of Mulgrave, who was by king William and queen Mary, created Marquis of Normanby, and by queen Ann, duke of Buckingham. The bodies of Edmund and Elizabeth, earl and countess of Mulgrave, are also interred here. On the north side of the chancel, is a handsome marble monument, surmounted by a female figure leaning on an urn, beneath which is an inscription in memory of Sir Charles Sheffield bart., who died in 1774, aged 72, and of Margaretta Diana his wife, who died in 1762, aged 44. On the south side of the chancel is a cenotaph, to the memory of Penelope, the eldest daughter of the Rev. Sir Robt. Sheffield, bart., who died in 1808, aged 21 years, and whose remains are interred at Wradsbury, Bucks. Besides those already enumerated, there are several other monuments belonging to the same family, which, however we have not space to particularize.

The parish of Burton, includes the hamlets of Normanby, Thealby, and part of Coleby; and in 1821, contained 127 houses, and 762 inhabitants.

Normanby Hall is the seat of Sir Robert Sheffield, bart. This branch of the family now possesses the most considerable part of the ancient patrimony of this illustrious house. Walcot Hall, about a mile northward from the village is the seat of T. Goulton, Esq.; and at Burton is the seat of lady Sheffield.

Flixborough.

FLIXBOROUGH is situated upon a chain of cliffs, which here assume a peculiarly bold aspect, and command an extensive view over a fertile country, through which the river Trent winds in an irregular course. It is distant about eleven miles north-west from Brigg; and in 1821, contained 41 houses, and 216 inhabitants.

Church.

The living is a rectory valued at £13. 10s., and is in the patronage of Sir Robert Sheffield, bart. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small edifice situated on a hill, whilst the bell is hung in a frame at the base of the eminence.

Roxby.

ROXBY is situated about a mile westward of the Roman road, (the Ermin Street) from Lincoln to the Humber, at the distance of about nine miles south-west from Barton. This place appears to have been inhabited by the Romans, during their government in this island, several remains of that people having at different times been found here.

Church. This living is a vicarage, valued at £6. 3s. 4d. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a structure of the fourteenth century, and consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower.

Roman Pavement. On the south-west of the church, was found some years since, a tesselated pavement, about six or seven yards broad, and of proportionate length. It was composed of red, blue, and white tesseræ, which were disposed in circles, and quadrangular, and other figures; in some of those circles and figures were urns, in others flowers, and in others interchangeable knots: on the outside were several rows of tesseræ, twice as long as the rest. Over the pavement was found a bone of the hinder leg of an ox or cow, broken in two, and many pieces of plaster painted red and yellow, which seemed to have been the foot of a cornice, at the foot of an altar, or perhaps of some part of the building, Several large stones in their falling, when the building was destroyed, had broken, and lodged themselves in the pavement.

This village contains the seat of C. Elwes, esq., who is the possessor of the manor.

Attached to this parish is the hamlet of Riseby, the manor of which, together with several other estates, was given by Edward VI., to Sir William Herbert, one of his privy council, and one of the executors of Henry VIII.

According to the returns of 1721, Roxby contained 60 houses, and 350 inhabitants; Riseby at the same period containing 21 houses, and 107 inhabitants.

West Halton. The village of WEST HALTON is at the distance of ten miles west from Barton, and contained in 1821, 70 houses, and 374 inhabitants, including the hamlets of Gunhouse, Caneby, Nephouse, and Coleby. The church, dedicated to St. Etheldreda, is a rectory, valued at £16., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Norwich.

Whitton. WHITTON on the Humber, is about eleven miles from Barton. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a vicarage, rated in the King's books at £6. 10s. 0d., and is in the patronage of the crown. This parish is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster. In 1821, it contained 39 houses, and 212 inhabitants.

Winteringham. WINTERINGHAM is pleasantly situated on the summit and declivity of an elevated situation, which is washed at its base by the Humber. It is a long straggling place, distant about eight miles westward from Barton, which according to the returns made in 1821, contained 159 houses, and 745 inhabitants.

Stukeley asserts that this was the Roman station, *Ad Abum*.* "upon a rising ground at the end of the road, a little to the right, and half a mile east of the present Winteringham, stood the old Roman town, of which they (the people) have a perfect knowledge, and ploughed up great foundations within memory; 'tis now a common, skirted by the marshes of the Humber. The city was ploughed up about six years ago and (in the year 1700) great numbers of antiquities found, now lost; great pavements, chimney stones, &c., often breaking their ploughs: in several places they found streets made of sea sand, and gravel. The old haven mouth is called Flasmire. This place is over against Brough, a Roman town on the Yorkshire shore." †

Manor. The manor of Winteringham was anciently in the possession of the Marmions, one of whom in the reign of Edward II., obtained a charter for a weekly market at this place.

* Horsley says, that the ancient name of the Humber was Abus.

† Itin. Curios. p. 90.

The period at which this ceased to be a market town cannot be ascertained. It still possesses a fair for cattle and goods, held on the 14th. of July, annually. CHAP VI.

Church. The living is a rectory, valued at £28, and is in the patronage of the earl of Scarborough. The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is situated at the western extremity of the village. It is of the early English architecture, containing lancet shaped windows, and consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel, a chapel on the north side, and a western tower. In the chancel is a tomb, on which is laid the figure of a Knight in armour, probably one of the Marmions.

Winterton. WINTERTON, formerly called Winterington, is a considerable village, on the west side of the Roman Road from Lincoln to the Humber, at the distance of about eight miles west by south from Barton. It is a place of great antiquity, having been occupied by the Romans; and from the numerous remains of that people, which at different times have been found at this place it was doubtless a station of some importance.

After the Norman conquest Winterton was among the thirty-three lordships which were given by the conqueror to Norman de Areci, one of his followers, in the possession of whose descendants, afterwards called Darcy, it remained for several succeeding generations.

Church. The living of Winterton is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £8., and is in the patronage of the crown. The church is a spacious edifice, in the form of a cross, with a tower at the west end. From the lower windows in the tower, that part of the structure appears originally to have been of Anglo-Norman architecture; but the other parts of the church are in the acutely pointed, or early English style. This edifice was greatly dilapidated in the civil wars between Charles I. and his parliament; but after the restoration it was repaired and beautified, principally at the expence of Mr. Thomas Place; an inhabitant of the town. In the floor of the chancel is a stone containing the effigies in brass of a man and woman: from part of an inscription remaining round the verge, they appear to be the figures of John Rudd, merchant of the staple at Calais, and his wife, the former of whom died in the year 1504. This John Rudd is said to have been the founder of a chantry in this church. In the north wall of the chancel is a coat of arms, sculptured in bold relief on stone, under which is "Insignia Petri Gering 1590. In the south wall is a small niche, in which is part of a figure in brass, the inscription and arms formerly attached to which are destroyed.

Tesselated pavement. In the year 1747, three curious tesselated pavements were discovered by ploughing in Winterton Great Corn Fields; they were however, soon afterwards destroyed. One of these pavements, was thirty feet in length and nineteen broad, and was supposed to have been the floor of a dining room. It had in the centre, a figure of Orpheus playing on his lyre, surrounded by beasts; at the corners four handled wine vessels, for libations. In the centre of another, which was forty four feet by fifteen, was the figure of Ceres, holding in her hands ears of corn; and on the third, which was the least perfect, was the figure of a stag, in a bounding attitude. These engravings, previous to their destruction, were engraved by the Society of Antiquaries. At the same time and place were dug up great quantities of Roman bricks and tiles, and a large brazen eagle, probably a military standard, but no coin.

A fair for cattle and goods is held at Winterton on the 5th July; and a small corn market is held weekly, on Wednesdays, at one of the public houses in the village.

In 1821, the number of houses in this village was 251, and of inhabitants 1015.

BOOK VI.

Wapentake of Yarborough. The WAPENTAKE of YARBOROUGH is bounded on the north by the river Humber; on the east by Bradley Haverstoe Wapentake; on the sonth by Walshcroft Wapentake; and on the west by Manly Wapentake. It is separated into the southern, northern, and eastern divisions. This wapentake gives the title of Baron to the Anderson-Pelham family.

South division. The SOUTH DIVISION comprises the market towns of Brigg, or Glandford Bridge, and Caister; and the villages of Barnetby-le-wold, Bigby, Cadney, Clixby, Grassby, North Kelsey, Melton Ross, Nettleton, Searby, Somerby, and Wrawby; besides the extra-parochial hamlet of Newstead.

Glandford Bridge or Brigg. GLANDFORD BRIDGE, OR BRIGG as it is more usually called, is a market town on the river Ancholme, over which, at this place, is a stone bridge, from which the town derives its name. It is situated in the midst of the Ancholme level, at the distance of twenty four miles north from Lincoln, on the road from that city to Barton. This town forms part of the four adjoining parishes, of Bigby, Broughton, Scawby, and Wrawby, being situated on a point where they all meet. It was originally a fishing hamlet; but has progressively improved, until it has become a town of some importance, possessing a good trade. The river Ancholme has been made navigable from the Humber to Bishop Bridge, ten miles above the town, and by its means the inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in corn, coal, and timber; by this means a communication is also afforded by means of steam packets, with the port of Hull. The market is on Thursday, and a fair is held on the 16th of August. The principal manufacture in the town is that of rabbit skins, in which more hands were once employed than in any other town in the kingdom; but owing to the increased value of agricultural produce, and a reduction in the price of skins, the rabbit warrens, formerly so abundant in this neighbourhood, have been materially diminished, and the manufacture has consequently much declined.

Chapel. The town standing in four parishes, had originally no place of worship under the establishment nearer than a mile and a half. In the year 1699, four gentlemen built a small chapel, and endowed it with certain estates, which were vested in their own heirs, and the trustees of the school.

Grammar School. A Free Grammar School was founded and endowed at this place by Sir John Nelthorpe, bart., who by his will, dated in 1669, vested certain estates in trustees for that purpose. The founder directed that a school room should be built with dwellings for the master and usher, and that boys born in the town of Brigg, and in other parishes where he possessed estates, should be taught the learned languages gratuitously; and all other boys, wheresoever born, should be instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, free of expence. The number of boys in the school is limited by the trustees to eighty.

In the reign of King John a hospital was founded at this place by Adam Paynel, which was subordinate to the abbey of Selby, in Yorkshire; a monk of which house was always its master.

Newstead Abbey, on the bank of the Ancholme, about a mile and a half above the town, was founded by Henry II. for Gilbertines, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity; it was valued at £55. 1s. 8d. per annum, and the site was granted to Robert Heneage, Esq. The remains constitute a farm house, belonging to Lord Yarborough. At the south end of the building is a room said to have been the chapter house; but an arched entrance to the chapel has been removed to Brocklesby. The site is extra-parochial.

In 1821, Glandford Brigg contained 337 houses, and 1674 inhabitants.

Caistor.

CAISTOR is a small market town, picturesquely situated on the side of a lofty hill, which overlooks an extensive tract of country. The town of Grimsby lies about twelve miles to the north-east; Barton upon Humber eighteen miles towards the north; Louth the same distance to the south-east; Brigg and Rasen each nine miles, the former towards the north-west, and the latter towards the south; while the massive towers of Lincoln Cathedral are visible from the upper parts of the town, at the distance of twenty miles in a southerly direction, and it is about 160 miles from London.

Caistor is a town of great antiquity, though its early transactions are overshadowed by the dusky veil of oblivion. How clear soever it may be, from existing vestiges of Roman or Saxon workmanship, which bespeak the site of an important fortress, that the hills on which it is built were selected by the first conquerors of this island as a place of military defence, yet we find it difficult to localize the spot as the scene of active operations known to the recorded history of the times. Stukeley pronounces it to be a Roman station; and his authority, founded on personal investigation, is not lightly to be rejected. He asserts that he saw "enough of the old Roman wall to evince its founders. One great piece stands on the verge of the churchyard; there are more beside the school-house in the pastures; and I have met with many men," he adds, "who have dug at its foundations in several other places. The castle was built of white Rag-stone, sometimes laid sideways, sometimes flat in mortar, exceeding hard, full of pebbles and sand," &c. &c.

The site of the edifice is still known by the name of "Castle Hill." It has been asserted, but the authority is doubtful, that this fortress was the scene of the famous banquet, which in the year 453, placed Vortigern at the disposal of the wily Saxon who is denominated by contemporary bards *dyvynawl vrych*, the freckled intruder.

According to Camden, who follows some old chronologists, this place was called by the British, *Caer Egarry*, and by the Saxons Thong-Caistor. The latter name it is said to have derived from a circumstance that occurred in the time of Hengist. This Saxon general, after defeating the Scots and Picts, obtained from Vortigern very extensive possessions in other parts of the Island, and was granted as much land at this place as he could encompass with the hide or skin of an ox. This being cut into small strips or thongs, extended round a large plot of ground, on which he built a fortified mansion, since called *Thong-Castle*.* Of Byrsa, a famous citadel of Carthage, a similar story is related; and other parallel traditions are told of Thong Castle, near Sittingbourn, in Kent.†

In the year 827 a great battle was fought at Caistor, between Egbert and Wycklaff king Mercia, in which the latter was defeated with the loss of his baggage, which was dedicated at the holy rood of Caistor church, and converted by the conqueror to pious and charitable purposes. In confirmation of this fact, a stone of an irregular shape was dug up nearly half a century ago on the Castle hill, with a mutilated inscription, which has been thus interpreted:

* This account may be correct in the main, but it is scarcely credible that Hengist built the castle, though he might make very considerable additions to the fortress then in existence.

† Beauties Eng. and Wales, vol ix. p. 686.

BOOK VI. "CRUCI SPOLIUM, QUOD EGBERT REX IN HONOREM." This was a vestige of the memorial which had been erected as a trophy of the above victory.

Church. The living is a vicarage valued at £7. 6s. 8d., and is in the patronage of the Prebendary of Caistor in the cathedral of Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St Paul, has been built within the area of the ancient fortress, and consists of a nave with aisles, a south transept, a chancel, and a tower at the west end. The latter is not particularly lofty, but standing on an elevated site, it is a picturesque object when viewed from the open country on the west. It has three stages, separated by string courses, and is supported by graduated buttresses, which diminish to the top, and a smaller one in the centre of the lower stage, which has been recently erected to prevent the damage which it was apprehended the tower would sustain without the aid of such an appendage. Behind this supplementary buttress appear the remains of a Norman or Saxon doorway with the zig-zag ornament. The upper stages have each windows and the tower is crowned with an embattled parapet and four crocketed pinnacles, and decorated with grotesque figures projecting from the angles and centre of the cornice.

The south façade has a plain porch, which is not frequently used, as the principal entrance is from the north. Here are also four windows in the nave isle, one of four and the rest of three lights, with trefoil heads and recesses; and four others of a similar description in the clerestory. The parapet of the nave is embattled. At the east end is a plain window of five lights, inserted probably about the year 1806, when the church underwent a thorough repair. On the north is a porch; and windows both in the lower and upper stories, to correspond with those on the south side.

The interior of the church is plain and almost without character. The nave is supported by slender columns with pointed arches, and the chancel is ceiled like a modern drawing room. Under an arch in the north wall is a tomb, on which is laid the figure of a knight in armour, said to be one of the earls of Hundon; and near to this is the recumbent figure of a female, of whom tradition has not preserved the name. On the floor of the chancel is a brass, containing a latin inscription to John Dusteby, who died in 1450, and Joan, his wife. Near this is another brass, containing a memorial in latin to Godfrey Carrington, forty four years vicar of this parish, and Anna his wife, both of whom died in 1670. In the east wall of the vestry is a tablet, surmounted by a figure in alabaster, kneeling at a desk, and inscribed in latin to Sir Edward Maddison, Knt., who died in 1553. Against the opposite wall is another tablet, in memory of Katherine, the wife of Edward Maddison, who died in 1591; and of her husband who died at Ashborn, in Derbyshire, in 1619.

A curious ceremony, respecting a peculiar *tenure*,* not mentioned by Camden or Blount, takes place at Caistor every Palm Sunday. A person from Broughton enters the church yard with a green silk purse, containing two shillings, and a silver penny, tied at the end of a cart whip, which he cracks three times in the porch, and continues there till the second lesson begins, when he goes into the church and stands in front of the reading desk, waves the purse over the head of the clergyman, kneels down upon a cushion, and continues in that position with the purse suspended over the head of the clergyman until the lesson is ended,

* The lands held by this are situated in the parish of Broughton.

when he retires into the choir, and waits the remainder of the service. After the service is concluded, he carries the whip and purse to the manor house of Hundon, a hamlet in the parish of Caistor, where they are left. A new whip is provided every year. Mr. Gough thinks that two shillings are probably substituted for twenty-four pence, as the tenure appears to have been antecedent to the coinage of shillings; "which," he observes, "were not common till the reign of Edward the sixth."

Springs.

The hill on which Caistor is situated is very fruitful in springs of excellent water; but the most remarkable is in an obscure situation adjoining the church yard, at the end of Duck street, and is known by the name of the Cypher spring, from syfer (Sax.) pure, as descriptive of the quality of the water. It bursts out with some degree of violence through cavities of the rock, at a distance from the ground, and falls like a small cascade. Near this, another spring issues silently from under the church-yard, and is reputed to possess the virtue of healing diseased eyes.

The market is much decayed, owing to the want of facilities to convey corn and merchandize to London, and other places of general consumption, which the neighbouring towns possess in the rivers and canals which communicate immediately with the German Ocean; for the navigable cut from the Ancholme to Kelsey, affords but little convenience in these respects to the inhabitants of Caistor; but the fairs are still deservedly popular, and frequented by cattle dealers from all parts of the kingdom. These fairs are for sheep, horses, and horned cattle, and are held three times a year; on the Friday and Saturday *before* Palm and Whit Sundays, and *after* old Michaelmas day; and there are fortnight markets for stock, from Palm to Whitsun fairs, and one or two after Michaelmas.

Free School.

In the year 1630 the Rev. Francis Rawlinson, rector of South Kelsey, by his will dated 20th December, devised to certain feoffees in trust, the sum of £400., to be vested in the purchase of real property, for the foundation of a Grammar School at Caistor, which should be open to the sons of all the inhabitants, to be instructed in the Greek, Latin and English languages, as well as writing and arithmetic. The great tithes of Beesby were purchased with this bequest, which produce to the head master about £150 per annum. Subsequently an endowment for an usher was made by William Hansard, esq., and lands in the parish of Cumberworth were purchased, which produce about £60 a year. There is an exhibition at Jesus College Cambridge, for scholars educated at this school, which has not of late years been used.*

In this town was born Dr. John Barnard, a clergyman distinguished for his learning. He died at Newark in 1683, and was buried in the church at Waddington.

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 228 houses, and 1253 inhabitants.

Barnetby-le-Wold.

BARNETBY-LE-WOLD is situated on the side of the wolds, at the distance of about six miles north-east from Brigg. The living is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £6. 4s. 2d., and is in the patronage of the Bishop of Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small mean edifice, containing nothing that requires particular notice. In 1821, this parish contained 45 houses, and 316 inhabitants.

Bigby.

BIGBY is pleasantly situated at the foot of the Wolds, about four miles east from Brigg, and the same distance north-west from Caistor. The living is a rectory, valued at

* Gents. Magazine, 1829—Part 11—page 221.

BOOK VI. £13. 10s. 10d. The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is an ancient structure, reduced about the year 1780 by taking down the north aisle. Close by the pulpit is a stone on which is sculptured the figure of a woman with her hands in a supplicating attitude, and a greyhound under her feet, around which is a mutilated inscription, of which nothing but the name of Skipwith is decipherable. When the north aisle was standing, a statue of a female, supposed to be one of the Skipwith family lay at a small distance from the above, the inscription in Saxon characters with the date 1156, was broken off when it was removed to its present situation in the belfry, where is also the fragment of another statue in a sitting posture. Upon a stone in the floor of the chancel, covering the steps leading to the vaults of the Skipwiths, is the figure in brass of a woman, under which is an inscription, without date, to Elizabeth, the wife of John Skipwith, esq., and daughter of Sir William Tyrwhit, of Kettleby. On the north side of the chancel is a tomb on which are laid the statues of Sir Robert Tyrwhit of Kettleby, and Elizabeth his wife; and round the base of the tomb, are the kneeling figures of their twenty-three children; above is a tablet containing an inscription, from which it appears that Sir Robert died in 1581; the time of his wife's death is obliterated.

In this parish, and about a mile and a half from the village is the hamlet of Kettleby, so called from having been the residence of Kettel, a Danish captain under Canute. This place was formerly the chief seat of the Tyrwhits, of whose mansion only the foundations remain, surrounded by a moat. By marriage the estate devolved to the Elwes family, of which C. Elwes, esq. is the present representative.

Cadney. In 1821, this parish contained 29 houses, and 190 inhabitants.

The village of CADNEY is situated at the distance of about three miles southward from Brigg. The living is a vicarage rated at £7. 18s. 4d.; the church is dedicated to All Saints.

In 1821 this village, including the township of Housham, contained 49 houses, and 303 inhabitants.

Clixby. CLIXBY is situated about two miles north westward from Caistor, and in 1821 contained 12 houses, and 67 inhabitants. A curious tenure occurs at Clixby, which is thus recorded by Blount; "John de Clyxby, parson of the church of Symondesburne, acknowledged himself to hold a messuage, and three oxgangs and a half of land, with the appurtenances in Clyxby, in the county of Lincoln, of the King *in capite, by service of one knightcap* or hood, and one falcon, to be paid to the king yearly at Michaelmas, for all services; *which said nightcap was appraised* at one halfpenny."*

Grassby. GRASSBY is situated about four miles north westward from Caistor. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a vicarage, rated at £5. 17s. 8d. This church was given to Birstall Abbey, by the Earl of Albemarle, 1115, and the grant confirmed by the bishop of Lincoln.†

In 1821, this village contained 77 houses, and 299 inhabitants.

North Kelsey. NORTH KELSEY is about six miles south-east from Brigg. The living is a vicarage valued at £8., and is in the patronage of the Prebendary of North Kelsey, in the cathedral of Lincoln. In the year 1821, this parish contained 121 houses, and 573 inhabitants.

* De termino Trin. a° 33, Edw. III. Rot. 1.

† Burton's Monast. Ebor. p. 300.

Melton Ross.

The village of MELTON ROSS, which took its latter name from having been once the seat of a family named Ross, is situated on the Wolds, about seven miles north-east from Brigg. When the family of Ross resided here, a spirit of rivalry was maintained between them and the Tyrwhits of the neighbouring hamlet of Kettleby. This was carried to such a pitch by their vassals, that on the two parties meeting on a hunting excursion, they proceeded to blows, and many were slain on both sides. King James I. being shortly afterwards in Lincolnshire, and hearing of the circumstance, ordered a gallows to be erected on the spot where the fight occurred, and caused it to be enacted that in future any person slain in encounters of this kind should be deemed murdered, and the perpetrator of the crime be hanged. A gallows is always kept upon the spot, a new one being erected whenever the old one falls to decay.

The living is a curacy, in the presentation of the Prebendary of Melton Ross, in the cathedral of Lincoln. The church is a small modern building. In 1821 this parish contained 24 houses, and 126 inhabitants.

Nettleton.

NETTLETON, one mile south from Caistor, contained in 1821, 72 houses, and 353 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a rectory, valued at £19. 10s. 10d.

Searby.

SEARBY, five miles north-west from Caistor, is a pleasant village, which, in 1821 contained 39 houses, and 247 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St Nicholas, is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £8; and is in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral. The church is a modern structure, erected in 1832; it is in the gothic style, and consists of a nave, chancel; and tower at the west end; the edifice is composed of white brick, neatly finished with stone dressings. Two ladies, named Roadley and Dixon, liberally engaged to paint and supply the glass for the windows. The architect was Mr. Richard Colton, of Moor Town. Owston is a hamlet belonging to this parish in which the population returns are included.

Somerby.

SOMERBY is situated on the road from Caistor to Brigg, at the distance of about four miles and a half from each town. In this village is the seat of E. Weston, esq., whose ancestors have long resided here. The living is a rectory, valued at £7. 7s. 6d., and is in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small uninteresting edifice, which stands in a wood on the side of a hill, and contains several monumental inscriptions of the Westons. In 1821, this village contained 13 houses, and 76 inhabitants.

Wrawby.

The village of WRAWBY is situated at the distance of about two miles north-east from Brigg, part of that town standing in this parish. The church dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious edifice, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower. On the north side of the chancel is a tomb, over which against the wall is a stone, in which have been figures with an inscription, and arms in brass, all of which are gone. The living is a vicarage, valued at £9. 14s. 7d., and is in the patronage of Clare Hall, Cambridge. In 1821, Wrawby contained 50 houses, and 262 inhabitants.

East Division.

The EAST DIVISION of the Wapentake of Yarborough, comprises the villages of Brocklesby, Croxton, Habrough, East Halton, Imingham, Keelby, North Killingholme, South Killingholme, Kirmington, Great Limber, Riby, and Stallingborough.

Brocklesby.

BROCKLESBY is situated about eight miles north-east from Caistor, and about the same distance westward from Grimsby. In 1821 this place, including the parish of Little Limber, contained 262 inhabitants.

Brocklesby Park, the principal seat of Lord Yarborough, is extensive, and diversified by

BOOK VI. numerous plantations and swelling grounds. The house is not remarkable for its architecture, but it derives considerable interest from an elegant picture gallery, which was added to it in 1807, from the designs of C. H. Tatham. The length of the gallery is 63 feet, the breadth 48, by 20 feet high; the ceiling is very elegant, being enriched with antique vases, and that part appropriated to the cabinet pictures, has an arched ceiling highly ornamented. The gallery contains a fine collection of paintings by the old masters, and a few sculptured marbles, amongst which is an antique head of Niobe, highly esteemed.

Mausoleum. In the park is an elegant Mausoleum, which was begun under the direction of Mr. James Wyatt, in 1787, and completed in 1794. It stands on a commanding eminence, the site of an ancient tumulus, once a place of Roman sepulture, as appears from the sepulchral urns, burnt bones and ashes, together with a variety of rings, combs, and perforated beads, which were discovered on laying the foundation. The form of the building is that of a Grecian temple, of the peripteral kind. The colonnade consists of twelve fluted Doric columns, which stand upon a rusticated basement, about fifty two feet in diameter, these support a bold entablature, the frieze of which is enriched with festoons of flowers, suspended from the horns of the bull, and above which is an open balustrade. The external body of the temple, which is nearly forty feet in diameter, contains four niches, in each of which stands a sarcophagus. This part of the building rises to a small height above the balustrade, where it is surmounted by a dome, the commencement of which is of stone, and the upper part copper, with a circular curb of stonework surrounding an aperture at the summit, through which descends the light necessary for the interior of the building. The basement contains the cemetry, with compartments and recesses for depositing coffins. Above the basement is the part called the chapel, which is ascended by a spacious flight of steps. The interior is divided into four compartments, by eight fluted columns of the Corinthian order, supporting the highly decorated and lofty dome. The whole, which displays much elegance and taste, is highly ornamental to the park, which is extensive, and diversified by numerous plantations and other picturesque objects.

Croxton. CROXTON, which is situated at the distance of about nine miles north-east from Brigg, in 1821, contained 15 houses, and 87 inhabitants, including the hamlet of Yarborough. The church, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, is a rectory, valued at £8. 14s. 2d. and is in the patronage of the crown. Yarborough Camp, [illegible] entrenchment, said to be of Roman origin, is situated on the ridge of [illegible] of the highest eminences in the county, and affords an extensive view, particularly towards the east. Vast quantities of Roman coins have been found here, among which were some of the emperor Licinius.

Habrough. The village of HABROUGH is about eight miles north-west from Grimsby. The living is a vicarage united with that of Killingholme, and is valued at £8. At the west end of the church is a stone recording that the steeple was repaired in 1684, by Charles Pelham esq., patron, Arthur Lomax, esq., lord of the manor, and all other freeholders, and inhabitants of the village. In 1821, this place contained 50 houses, and 286 inhabitants.

East Halton. EAST HALTON is a long straggling village, situated near the river Humber, at the distance of about eight miles south-west from Barton. The church dedicated to St. Peter, contains nothing that deserves particular notice; the living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £7. 18s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the crown. This parish in 1821, contained 102 houses, and 468 inhabitants.



Imingham.

IMINGHAM stands near the river Humber at the distance of about eight miles north-west from Grimsby. The living is a vicarage, valued at £7. 18s. 4d. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a neat structure, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower. In 1821, this parish contained 39 houses, and 207 inhabitants. It is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster,

Keelby.

KEELBY, situated at the distance of about six miles westward from Grimsby, and about seven miles northward from Caistor, was anciently the seat of a family named South. The manorial estates, comprising about eight thousand acres, were the property of the late Dr. Prettyman Tomline, Bishop of Winchester, who resided at the neighbouring village of Riby.

Church.

The living is a vicarage, valued at £20. The church dedicated to St. Bartholomew, consists of a tower, nave, and chancel; and formerly a south aisle. It contains several stones, which have been inlaid with brasses and inscriptions, all of which are now gone. In the north wall is a circular recess, surrounded with ornaments of alabaster, and containing an upright half length figure of an old lady in a ruff and hood, with her hands joined as in devotion, above her head has been a shield with arms, and below is an epitaph in latin verse to the memory of Alice South, who died in 1605. Mrs. South bequeathed a piece of land to the poor of this parish. On the north side of the entrance into the choir is a small mural monument, surmounted by a shield containing arms, and inscribed to John South, esq. husband of the above mentioned lady, who died in 1591.

In 1821, Keelby contained 94 houses, and 462 inhabitants.

North Killingholme.

NORTH KILLINGHOLME is situated near the Humber, and about ten miles north-west from Grimsby. It is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster. The manor house, which appears from some remains of the original architecture to have been erected about the reign of queen Elizabeth, has been surrounded by a moat, part of which still remains. The church dedicated to St. Denis, is an uninteresting structure, the living is a vicarage, valued at £7. 18s. 4d., and is in the patronage of Lord Yarborough.

This parish including the hamlet of South Killingholme, in 1821, contained 89 houses, and 438 inhabitants.

Kirmington.

KIRMINGTON, eight miles north from Caistor, contained in 1821, 47 houses, and 243 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is a vicarage, valued at £4. 18s, 4d.; the living is in the presentation of Lord Yarborough.

Great Limber.

GREAT LIMBER, or Lymbergh, is about five miles north-east from Caistor, and about nine miles from Grimsby. This living is a vicarage, valued at £9. 18s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the crown. The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a western tower. Here was an alien priory, a cell to the abbey of Aveney, in Normandy, which afterwards belonged to the Carthusians of St. Anne, near Coventry. At the Dissolution it was granted to John Bellow and others.

In 1821, Limber contained 73 houses, and 421 inhabitants. John Allot, lord mayor of London in the year 1560, was a native of this place.

Riby.

The village of RIBY is situated about six miles west of Grimsby. It was for several years the seat of a family named Tomline, the last of whom, on his decease in 1803, bequeathed his estates, and along with them his name, to Dr. Prettyman, the Bishop of Lincoln. The

mansion is situated in a well wooded park, and in a sequestered part of the pleasure grounds is an hermitage, which is appropriately fitted up.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Edmund, is in the form of a cross with a tower in the centre; it contains memorials of Mary, the wife of Marmaduke Tomline, esq., who died in 1717; William Tomline, esq., who died in 1742; Elizabeth, his wife, who died in 1773; and Marmaduke Tomline, esq., who died in 1803. The living is a vicarage, rated at £4. 18s. 4d. [illegible]

In 1821, t[illegible] contained 20 houses, and 168 inhabitants.

Stallingborough

STALLING[illegible] is situated near the river Humber, at the distance of about six miles north-west [illegible] Grimsby. The manor was formerly the property of a family named Ayscoghe, wh[illegible] here, the west wing of which remains in a ruinous state. By marriage wi[illegible] of this family, the estates passed to the Boucheretts of North Willingham. [illegible]

This living [illegible] valued at £11 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the Bishop of Lincoln. Th[illegible]ch, [illegible]icated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a neat brick edifice, which was rebuilt [illegible] the year 1780. Here are a great number of memorials to the family of the Ayscoghes.

The sum of twenty [illegible] annum is bequeathed to a master or dame, for teaching four poor children to [illegible] repeat their catechism. In the year 1821, Stallingborough contained 63 [illegible], and [illegible]habitants.

North Division

The NOR[illegible] DIVISION [illegible] Wapentake, contains the market town of Barton upon Humb[illegible], and the [illegible] Barrow upon Humber, Bonby, Elsham, South Ferraby Goxhill, Hork[illegible], New Holland, Saxby, Thornton Curtis, Ulceby, Wootton, and Worlaby.

Barton upon Humber.

The town of BARTON is [illegible] situated on the southern side of the river Humber, at the distance of about thirty[illegible] northward from Lincoln. This town is of great antiquity. It was once [illegible]ded by a rampart and foss, the remains of which are visible in what are called the Castle Dikes; and it was probably otherwise fortified against the irruptions, of [illegible] Danes, who, in their predatory incursions, often laid waste the country on [illegible] the river. Of its consequence at that period, nothing can be collected bu[illegible] of the Norman conquest, it is stated to have been a place of som[illegible], and [illegible] port on the river Humber. It was then a corporate town, governed by a mayor and aldermen, and until the foundation of Kingston upon Hull, by Edward I., carried on a considerable trade. When Edward III., issued his mandate to raise a force for the invasion of France, Barton furnished, according to one account, three ships and thirty men; and to another, five ships and ninety-nine men; while some of the present sea ports on the eastern coast were not even mentioned.

The manor belongs to the crown. A court leet is held half yearly, for the cognizance of offences committed within the town; a court baron every three weeks for the recovery of debts under forty shillings, and a court of requests, for the recovery of debts under five pounds is held monthly, under an act passed in the 47th of George III. The town is within the jurisdiction of the county magistrates: constables and other officers are appointed at the court leet of the lord of the manor.

Churches.

Though there is but one parish, there are two large churches, The mother church,



dedicated to St. Peter, is an ancient and spacious structure, principally in the decorated style of English architecture, with a tower, the upper stage of which is evidently in the early Norman style, and the tower of a much earlier date, being, probably one of the few specimens of Saxon architecture which remain in England. The body of the church consists of a nave with aisles, and a chancel. In the window of the chancel are two figures in stained glass, one of which, habited as a pilgrim, is said to be an effigy of that famous warrior, Lord Beaumont, to whom the manor was granted by Henry II. In the floor of the chancel is a stone, on which the outlines of the figures are sculptured, the face and hands of which appear to have been of brass, but which, together with the inscription around the verge, and between the figures are gone. In the floor of the nave is a brass plate containing an inscription in latin to William Cannon, who died in 1401.

The other church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a very handsome structure of the fourteenth century, and is said to have been erected by the merchants of Barton, as a chapel of ease to the church of St. Peter. It is very spacious, and consists of a nave, and chancel, with aisles, and a tower; the north aisle is divided from the nave by one pointed, and five circular arches; the latter ornamented with zig-zag mouldings, and supported by round massive pillars; the arches on the south side are all pointed, and supported by alternate clustered pillars. In the floor of the chancel is a figure in brass, inscribed to Simon Seman, lord mayor and alderman of London, who died in 1433. In the floor at the west end of the nave, is a half length figure in brass, with an inscription under it, but so much defaced as not to be decypherable. In the aisle on the south side of the chancel, is a tablet in memory of William Long, who died in 1729, aged 85, and who bequeathed £200. to be laid out in lands, the profits of which were to be applied to educating poor children.

The two churches are repaired by separate districts, which has probably given rise to the idea, that the town contains two parishes. Service is performed alternately at each church. The living is a consolidated vicarage, rated in the king's books at £19. 4s. 8d.

In this town are places of worship for Independents, and Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists.

The charity school, for the instruction of poor children in reading, writing, and arithmetic, was founded in 1722, by Mr. William Long, who endowed it with £7. 12s. per annum, to which in 1735, Mr. Nicholas Fountain, added £50. Almshouses for four aged women of St. Mary's district, were founded and endowed in 1669 by Mr. Thomas Holland.

Barton consists principally of two spacious streets, irregularly built, in which, among many old houses, are some of modern structure. The trade is chiefly in corn and flour; there are several manufactories for rope, sacking, starch, plaister of Paris, bricks, and tiles. The market is on Monday, and on every alternate Monday there is a large cattle market; the fair is on Trinity Thursday. This place is greatly celebrated as being the place where the northern road passes the Humber to Hull; and the important improvements which have been made in the ferry, have rendered it a great thoroughfare. Steam packets for passengers, cross and recross the river every morning and evening; and a boat for horses and carriages every tide.

In 1821 this town contained 543 houses, and 2496 inhabitants.

Barrow is a large but irregularly built village, about two miles eastward from Barton, which was formerly the seat of the ancient family of Tyrwhit of Cornwall. About a mile north-west of the village, in a marsh, stands a large earthwork, called the Castle, which Barrow.

BOOK VI. tradition says, was erected by Humber, when he invaded Britain, in the time of the Trojan Brutus. Stukeley says, "it is dissonant from any thing I ever saw;" and after a minute investigation considers it to be "an alate temple" of the Britons, and places it in the third class of his "Druidical buildings." Having thus decided on its origin, he gives an account of what he conceived to have been its form, and describes the dimensions. Its features, however, are more of a military than a religious kind; and it was probably an entrenched camp of the Britons, who in many instances preferred such inundated situations. Adjacent to the foundations, are several tumuli, or long barrows, in some of which human bones, ashes, urns, and other relics, have been discovered.*

Church. The living is a discharged vicarage rated in the king's books at £9. 16s., and is in the patronage of the crown. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a spacious edifice, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower. Four of the arches on the north side of the nave are circular. In the church yard is the mutilated shaft of a stone cross.

In this village is a small endowment for the instruction of six poor children, being the produce of some land devised by Richard Beck, in 1728.

About the middle of the seventh century, Wulphere, king of the Mercians, gave to that pious man, Cead or Chad, the land of fifty families, to build a monastery at this place, some appearance of which is mentioned by Bede, as remaining in his time.

In 1821, Barrow contained 279 houses, and 1307 inhabitants.

Bonby. BONBY is situated about six miles south westward from Barton, and about the same distance northward from Brigg. This living is a vicarage valued at £6. 4s. 4d. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is an exceedingly neat structure, which has lately been enlarged by the addition of one hundred sittings, fifty of which are free, the Incorporated Society for the enlargement of churches having granted £50 towards the expense.

In the early part of the reign of King John, the church at this place, and the churches at Saxilby, and Stamford All Saints, were granted to the priory of St. Fromund, in Normandy, by the prior and convent of Merton, in exchange for other revenues; shortly after which an alien priory was erected here, which, in the fourth year of Henry IV., was granted to the Chartreaux House at Beauval, in Nottinghamshire.

According to the returns of 1821, this village contained 54 houses, and 275 inhabitants.

Elsham. ELSHAM, or Ailesham, is situated near the turnpike road between Brigg and Barton, at the distance of about four miles and a half from the former place, and six miles southward from the latter. It contains the seat of W. T. Corbet, esq.

Church. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a neat structure of early English architecture, which is entered on the west through a handsome arched doorway, supported by receding pillars, the capitals of which are ornamented with foliage and flowers. On the buttresses on each side of the entrance are sculptured stones, one of which is nearly destroyed by exposure to the weather; the other contains six figures, one whereof is clothed, the others naked.

Hospital. At this village was an hospital for several poor brethren, begun by Beatrix de Amundeville, which her son completed, and committed to the care of a friar, and regular canons of the Augustine order, previous to the year 1166. About the year 1180, the knights hospitallers made some pretensions to it, but were obliged to abandon their claim. It was dedicated

* It has been affirmed that the battle of Brunnenburgh, was fought on the banks of the Humber, near this spot in the reign of Athelstan.

to St. Mary, and St. Edmund, and at the suppression was valued, according to Dugdale, at £70. 0s. 8d. The site was granted in 1538, to Charles, duke of Suffolk.

In 1821 this parish contained 57 houses, and 383 inhabitants.

South Ferraby

SOUTH FERRABY is pleasantly situated on the side of a hill, near the river Humber, at the distance of about three miles westward from Barton. Here the Humber is an estuary from three to six miles in breadth, which carries the united waters of Ancholme, Trent, Ouse, and other streams into the German Ocean.

The living is a rectory valued at £12. 17s. 6d., and is in the patronage of the Bishop of Lincoln. The church is a very singular structure, consisting of a square nave, on the east side of which is a chancel surmounted by a tower.

In this village is a place of worship belonging to the Wesleyan Methodists.

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained at that period 88 houses, and 453 inhabitants.

Goxhill.

The village of GOXHILL is pleasantly situated near the river Humber opposite the town of Hull at the distance of five miles eastward from Barton. This place in the reign of Edward I. formed part of the baronies of the Earl of Albemarle, the bishop of Lincoln, the bishop of Bayeaux, and that of Tresbut, and was held by Robert de Ros, and others of his family until the time of Henry V., when William, Lord Ros died, siezed of the manor, held of the countess of Stafford. In the reign of Edward I., Simon de Vere also held a fee of the Earl of Albemarle, and another under the bishop of Lincoln.*

Church.

The living is a discharged vicarage endowed with £200 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the crown. The church, dedicated to All Saints, stands on an eminence, and is a very handsome structure, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a lofty tower. In the chancel is a monument to the memory of Edward Skynner, of Thornton college, who died in 1657, and his wife Anne, Daughter of Sir William Wentworth, who died in 1707; there is also an effigy of a knight, supposed to be that of Walter de Vere of Goxhill, in the reign of Richard I., who bequeathed very extensive property to the poor of the parish, but they have long since ceased to enjoy the charitable bequest, as all records relating to it are lost.

Priory.

The priory of Goxhill was founded by William de Alta Ripa, for Cistercian nuns, about the year 1185: what remains of the building is now called the chapel, and is used as a kitchen, dairy, &c., by the person who occupies the premises. It was lighted by large pointed windows now blocked up. The lower story contained the offices which are vaulted. A small stair-case at one corner leads to the roof, from whence is a fine view of the adjacent level country, with the Humber and the town of Hull.

In 1821, this parish contained 185 houses, and 736 inhabitants. About four miles northward from the village is Goxhill ferry to Hull.

Horkstow.

The village of HORKSTOW is distant about four miles south-west from Barton, and about eight miles north from Brigg. The manorial estates form part of the extensive possessions of Lord Yarborough. At the north end of the village is Horkstow Hall, the seat of Colonel Tuffnell, formerly the residence of a family named Darrell, and afterwards of Rear Admiral Shirley. In 1796, fragments of three tesselated pavements were discovered in a close near this house, the largest of which is divided into compartments, one of them exhibiting a

* Weir's Lincolnshire, page 205.

curious representation of a chariot race;* several Roman coins have also been found here.

Church.

The living is a vicarage, valued at £4. 18s. 4d. The church is a small uninteresting edifice, containing nothing worthy of attention except a tablet to the memory of Thomas Shirley, Rear Admiral in the Navy, and fifth son of Robert, sixth earl of Ferrars, who died in 1814, aged 81.

In 1821, this parish contained 34 houses, and 200 inhabitants.

New Holland.

NEW HOLLAND, on the Humber, is situated at the distance of about three miles eastward from Barton, [redacted] Barrow. At this place is a newly erected inn, called th[redacted]eyances are dispatched daily to London. A steam pac[redacted]twixt this place and Hull, and a horse-boat, for the conv[redacted] once daily. By a reference to the map it will be seen that [redacted] Holland is much less hazardous, being not more than half th[redacted] from Hull to Barton.

Saxby.

SAXBY is [redacted], and about seven miles northward from [redacted] who is possessor of the manorial est[redacted] books at £12. 18s. 6d. The church, ded[redacted] on the south side of the nave. In 1[redacted], and 298 inhabitants.

Thornton Curtis.

The villa[redacted] of about five miles south-east from Barton, onc[redacted] of Albemarle, who in the year 1180, found[redacted] The manorial estates afterwards came into t[redacted]umberland, who was slain in an engagem[redacted] Moor, in February 1407-8. He was succee[redacted] on the breaking out of the civil wars [redacted]ncaster, adhered to the interest of the latter, and was sla[redacted] at St. Albans. The manor which comprises the whole [redacted] possessions of the monastery, is the property of Charles W[redacted]

Church.

The livi[redacted] king's books at £5. 18s. 4d. The church, which is dedicate[redacted] structure of the early English architecture, consisting of a [redacted] tower. It contains a font, evidently of Saxon workmans[redacted] that in Lincoln Cathedral: its top is square, each face[redacted] and other strange animals; it stands upon a circular [redacted] corner.

Abbey.

About [redacted] the remains of an abbey which was founded by Willi[redacted] lord Holderness, in the year 1139, for black canons, [redacted]. Dugdale informs us, that when first founded it was a [redacted] their prior, were introduced from the monastery of [redacted] an abbey, and Richard made abbot, by Pope Eugenius III. A. D. 1148. The founder died about 1180, and was supposed to have been interred within the walls.†

* Engravings of these pavements were published by Mr. Lyson in the first number of "Reliquiæ Romanæ."

† Beauties of England and Wales, vol. ix. p. 681.



THORNTON ABBEY

The possessions of this abbey were confirmed by King Richard I., in the first year of his reign, as was also a grant from pope Celestine III., exempting its inhabitants from the payment of a certain tythe of cattle. The advowson of the abbey, together with all the lands and possessions of the earl of Albemarle, escheated to Edward I; and being thus annexed to the Crown, Edward III. in the sixth year of his reign, by the advice of the prelates and barons in parliament, granted that the abbot should not be obliged to attorn to any, in case a grant of the advowson should be made; but that he should hold the possessions immediately from the crown, and in the same manner and form as they were given by the founder. Edward, Duke of York, the grandson of Edward III., appears to have had a grant of the patronage of this abbey.*

In the year 1541, Henry VIII, his queen, and attendants, on their return from the north, crossed the Humber, from Hull to Barrow, and honoured this abbey with a ceremonious visit. The abbot and all the monks came out in solemn procession to receive the royal guests, who remained here several days, and were splendidly entertained. At the dissolution, when the revenues were valued at £730. 17s. 2d., according to Speed, the king appears not to have been unmindful of the flattering attentions he had received; for though he suppressed the abbey, he reserved the greater part of the lands to endow a college, which he erected in its room, for a dean and prebendaries, to the honour of the Holy and Undivided Trinity. This was a large establishment, for after the dissolution of it in 1553, in the sixth year of Edward VI., it is asserted by Willis, that nineteen members received pensions. At that time it was granted, in exchange, to the bishop of Lincoln.

From the remains, it must have been a magnificent building. Originally it consisted of an extensive quadrangle, surrounded by a deep ditch, with high ramparts, and built in a style adapted for occasional defence. The gate-house, which formed the western entrance is yet tolerably entire. The entrance road, crossing the ditch, is flanked with brick walls, having loop-hole arches, supporting a broad battlement, and terminating in two round towers, between which was formerly a drawbridge. The grand entrance arch is still in a good state of preservation, and over it is a parapet, four feet broad, and opening into a cell, probably the porter's lodge. The front has been richly ornamented with cornices, niches, and statues. There is a groove for a portcullis, and parts of the great wooden doors are still pendant on their massy hinges. The roof is finely groined, the ribs of which are supported by elegant brackets, enriched with flowers and figures. Over the gateway are two rooms, and four handsome hexagonal towers, from the four angles. A winding staircase opens into a spacious apartment, probably the refectory. The brackets which supported the ceiling are half length human figures, so distorted in their countenances, as if represented in purgatory. On the east side of the refectory is another room, with recesses in both sides. To the east of the gateway are the remains of the abbey church. The chapter house, part of which is standing, was of an octangular shape, and highly decorated, having round it, under its handsome windows, an arcade, consisting of pointed arches, with cinquefoil heads, and in the centre of each an ornamented trefoil pendant drop.

On the south of the ruins of the church is a building, now occupied as a farm house, which

* Weir's Lincolnshire, page 200.

BOOK VI. formerly was the residence of the abbots. It afterwards was the seat of Edward Skinner, esq., who married Ann, daughter of Sir William Wentworth, brother to the unfortunate earl of Strafford. The estate was purchased from one of the Skinner family by Sir Richard Sutton, bart., in whose family it continued several years: it is now in the possession of Lord Yarborough,

The arms of Mortimer in three shields, having between the two uppermost a pastoral staff, are said to have been the arms of the abbey. This indicates that the site once belonged to that family and it is not improbable, that the founder might become possessed of the estate, by marriage with the daughter of Roger, earl of Mortimer.

In taking down a wall in the ruins of the abbey, a human skeleton was found, with a table, a book, and a candlestick. It is supposed to have been the remains of the fourteenth abbot, who it is stated, was for some crime, sentenced to be immured; a mode of capital punishment not uncommon in monastic institutions.

In 1821, the parish of Thornton, including the hamlet of Burnham, contained 50 houses, and 328 inhabitants.

Ulceby. ULCEBY is distant about seven miles south-east from Barton, and in 1821, contained 93 houses, and 455 inhabitants. The living is a vicarage, valued at £11. 18s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the crown. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a neat structure, the tower of which is surmounted by a tall, well proportioned spire. This place was anciently the seat of a family named Hastings. The manorial estates are the property of Lord Yarborough.

Wootton. The village of WOOTTON is situated at the distance of about five miles south-east from Barton. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a tower. The living is a vicarage, valued at £4. 18s. 4d. In this village is a free school, which was founded in pursuance of the will of Mr. John Faulding, of the adjacent hamlet of Burnham, who died in 1728, bequeathing the ground whereon the school is built, and five pounds per annum for the the master. In 1821, the parish contained 80 houses, and 397 inhabitants.

Worlaby. The village of WORLABY, distant about five miles northward from Brigg, is distinguished as having been the seat of John, second son of the first Viscount Fauconberg, who in the twentieth year of Charles I., was created Lord Belasyse of Worlaby. By Charles II., he was invested with several offices of trust; but scrupling to take the oath, enjoined by act of parliament in 1672, he resigned all his commands; and being afterwards attainted of the popish plot, he was confined for several years in the Tower of London. He was succeeded by a son and grandson, the latter of whom dying without issue, the title became extinct, and the estates have descended to Sir J. Webb, bart., of Candford Magna, in Dorsetshire. The old family seat, with the punning motto: "BONNE. ET. BELLE. ASSEZ.," was noticed by Gough.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Clements is a vicarage, valued at £6. 8s. 4d. The east windows of the chancel once contained some handsome stained glass, representing the descent from the cross, but which was destroyed some years since, by the ruthless hands of a glazier. In the chancel is a tablet containing an inscription to the memory of some of the children of John Lord Belasyse, and bearing the date of 1670.

In this village is an hospital for four poor women, founded and endowed in 1663, by Lord John Belasyse. The original endowment, which is small, has been augmented by a bequest of five pounds per annum, by the late William Cook of this parish. Worlaby is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster. In 1821, it contained 50 houses, and 262 inhabitants.

Bradley Haverstoe Wapentake

The WAPENTAKE of BRADLEY HAVERSTOE is bounded on the north and east by the German Ocean; on the south by Walshcroft, Ludborough, and Louth-Eske wapentakes; and on the west by Yarborough wapentake. It is subdivided into the north and south divisions.

North Division.

The NORTH DIVISION contains the borough of Great Grimsby, and the villages of Aylesby, Bradley, Clee, Cleethorpe, Great Coates, Little Coates, Healing, Holton le Clay, Humberstone, Irby, Laceby, Scartho, Swallow, and Tetney.

Great Grimsby.

GREAT GRIMSBY, anciently called Grimsbige, is situated on the little river Freshney, near the mouth of the Humber, and is supposed to have been the spot where the Danes landed when they first invaded Britain, towards the end of the eighth century. It is at the distance of about forty miles north-eastward from Lincoln, and one hundred and sixty one northward from London.

Camden treats as fabulous a tradition that the town was founded by a merchant named Gryme, who obtained great riches in consequence of having brought up an exposed child, called Haveloc, who proved to be of the Danish blood royal, and, after having been scullion in the king's kitchen, obtained the king's daughter in marriage: to this romantic story, whatever may be its foundation, there is a reference in the device of the corporation seal. Holles supposes this town was founded by a Norwegian pirate; and Macpherson observes, "Grimsby is noted by the Norwegian, or Icelander writers, as an emporium resorted to by merchants from Norway, Scotland, Orkney, and the western Islands.*

Notwithstanding that there are reasons for considering that this tradition is correct in its general circumstances, yet the place unquestionably appears to have been inhabited previous to the arrival of Gryme in England, which is supposed to have been about the year 870; for Peter of Langtoft, speaks of Grimsby as a frontier town, of the extended dominions of Egbert, in the year 827. Indeed the numerous artificial hills in the marshes, adjoining the present town, proclaim the spot to have been a station of consequence among the Britons. The most important of these hills, or tumuli, are denominated, Cun Hu Hill, Toote Hill Ellyll Hills, Nuns Hills, Sand Hill, Abbey Hill, and Holme Hill. These seven stations, form an ampitheatre, on which the ancient British town was situated; and from thence three lines of artificial embankments, under the designation of beacons, extended across the country in different directions, communicating with every part of the island.

In the reign of Edward III., Grimsby was a considerable seaport; and at the seige of Calais, in 1346, it supplied the king with eleven ships, and one hundred and seventy mariners, towards his naval armament. The harbour was formerly defended by two block houses, and the commerce of the port was very extensive, till the haven became obstructed by the accumulation of sand and mud, deposited by the Humber, so as to prevent the access of any vessels but sloops, in which state it continued till the beginning of the present century.

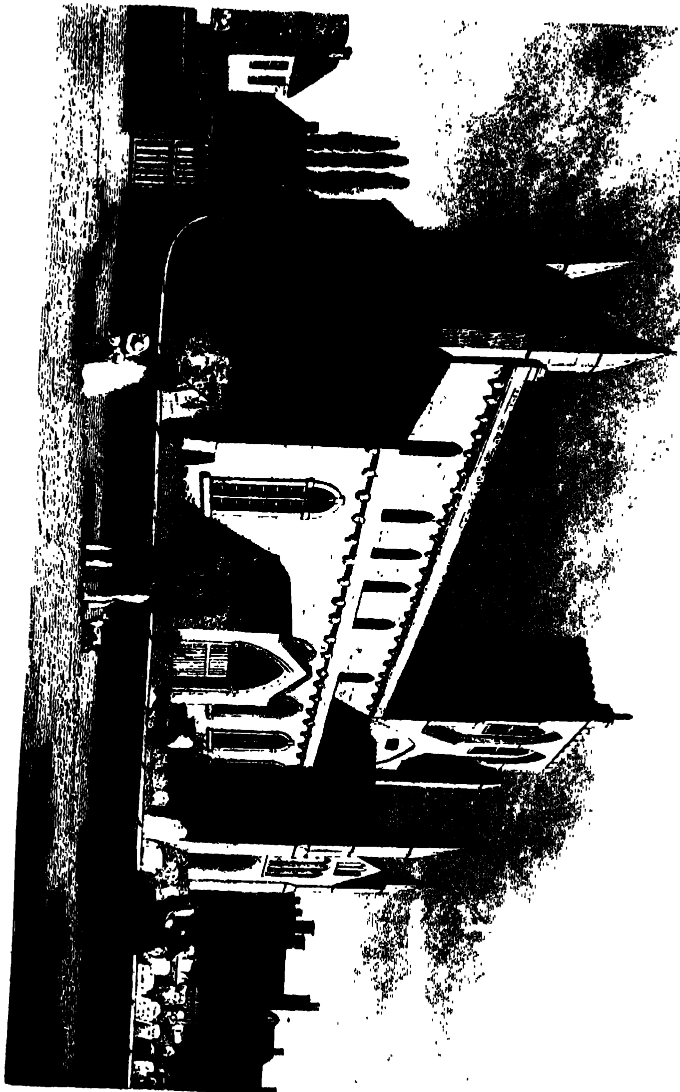
The town now consists of several good streets, the houses in which are well built, and

* Annals of Commerce, Vol. I. p. 291.

BOOK VI. much improvement of late years has been made in its general appearance. It has also in part recovered its commercial importance, chiefly through the spirited exertions of some of the principal landed proprietors in this neighbourhood, who raised a subscription for improving the harbour, and obtained an act of parliament, incorporating them under the title of "The Grimsby Haven Company." A wet and dry dock have been constructed at the expence of about £70,000; the works having been opened in December 1800; since which, many new buildings have been erected, especially in the vicinity of the Haven. Grimsby is a port subordinate to that of Hull, and has a deputy collector and comptroller of customs, with a coast surveyor. Coal, salt, and the produce of the countries bordering on the Baltic, constitute the principal articles of its commerce. The number of vessels that entered inwards during the year ending January 5th, 1827, was twenty nine British, and seventy five foreign; and the number which cleared outwards, twelve British, and fifty five foreign. Ships are annually sent to the Greenland fishery, and here are a few yards for building them. There are in the town some extensive breweries; and bone crushing, and the trade in bones for manure and other purposes, are largely carried on. The market is on Friday, and a fair is held on the sixth of June; one on the 15th of September has been discontinued.

Grimsby is one of the most ancient boroughs in England: it received its first charter from King John, being either the first or second which that monarch granted. The charter whereby the town is now governed, was bestowed by James II: it ordains that the corporation consist of a mayor, a high steward, a recorder, eleven aldermen, twelve common councilmen, two coroners, two chamberlains, two bailiffs, a town clerk, and three sergeants at mace. The mayor, who is annually chosen on the first Tuesday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and two of the aldermen, elected annually to the office, are justices of the peace. A court of session is held quarterly, at which the recorder or deputy presides. The mayor possesses the power of holding a court, which was formerly open every Monday, for taking cognizance of all actions of debt, as well as assaults and breaches of the peace, arising among the burgesses. The bailiffs are also empowered to hold a similar court, called the "foreign court," for determining actions for debt to any amount, brought against any resident non-freeman. A court of requests for the borough and liberties of Grimsby, and the parishes and places in the wapentake of Bradley Haverstoe, and the east divisions of the hundred of Yarborough, is held every Wednesday, for the recovery of debts not exceeding £5., under an act passed in the 46th of George III. The Mayor and bailiffs, as lords of the manor, hold a court leet, and view of frankpledge, and a court baron at Michaelmas. A meeting of the magistrates for the general administration of justice is held weekly, at the town clerks office. There is a common gaol for the custody of offenders, under the jurisdiction of the mayor and justices who appoint the gaoler. The corporation possess the exclusive right of fishing and fowling in the manors of Grimsby and Clee, and a claim on all wrecks thrown upon their coasts; and they likewise collect groundage from all ships driven on shore in gales of winds.

A very singular ordinance appears upon record, in the year 1595, which obliges the mayor and his eleven brethren, likewise the other twenty-four members of the body corporate, to sit in the chancel of the church on Sundays, and holidays, in decent apparel, otherwise to forfeit three shillings and fourpence. Their wives were enjoined the same attendance also decently



attired. A similar order appears in 1636, when the forfeiture for non-attendance of an alderman was one shilling, and the rest of the body sixpence each. CHAP. VI.

This borough sent two members to parliament from the 23rd of Edward I., till the passing of the reform act, in June 1832. It now sends only one member, and the boundaries include the several parishes of Great Grimsby, Great Coates, Little Coates, Bradley, Laceby, Waltham, Scarths, Clee, Weelsby, and Cleethorpes.

The ancient seals of the corporation refer to incidents illustrative of the early state of the town. On the common seal is represented the gigantic figure of a man, holding a drawn sword in his right hand, and bearing a circular shield on his left arm; the word "Gryem," near him, indicates him to be the reputed founder of the town. On his right hand is a youth with a crown over his head, and near him the word "[illegible]," and on his left is represented a female, over whose head is a regal diadem, and around [illegible] the word "Goldeburgh," the name of the princess who is said to have [illegible] wife of Haveloc. The legend is "Sigillum Communitatis [illegible]." The seal [illegible] mayor bears the legend of "Sigillum majoritatis de Grimesby," and contains a [illegible] of a boar closely pursued by a dog, behind which is a huntsman winding his horn. [illegible] device is descriptive of a privilege enjoyed by the mayor and burgesses of Grimsby of [illegible] in the [illegible] of the adjacent manor of Bradley, the lord of which was, by his tenure, obliged to provide yearly a wild boar for their diversion. These seals have long been laid aside and others adopted, containing the arms of the corporation:—azure, a chevron sable, between three boars' heads; the shield surrounded by a festooned border, gules, with a narrow edge, vert; above are two oak branches crossed, proper embowering an escallop shell, azure.

This town formerly possessed two churches, one of which was dedicated to St. Mary, the other to St. James, the latter of which is only remaining. The church of St Mary was situated in the centre of the town, on a site which retains the name of the old church yard. It was a very handsome and spacious building, with a western tower so lofty, as to be used by mariners for a beacon to direct them into the mouth of the haven. In the year 1586, the benefice, a rectory, was consolidated with the vicarage of St. James's and after that period this magnificient edifice was suffered to fall into decay, and at length taken down. Church

The church of St James is a spacious structure in the form of a cross, with a tower in the centre, which presents a beautiful specimen of English pointed architecture, and which, from having suffered less from the effects of dilapidation than the other parts of the building, was doubtless a subsequent erection. On the north-west angle of this tower is a turret, containing this inscription in old church text, "Pra for the saulle of John hemperyngā." This person was born here in the reign of Henry IV., and was a considerable benefactor to the church. The original building is stated to have exhibited a cathedral-like appearance; but the many injudicious alterations it has undergone, have destroyed the imposing effect which the edifice would undoubtedly produce in its primitive state. It consists of a nave, two aisles, a spacious transept, with the tower rising from its centre, a choir, a chantry, and a southern porch. The nave is separated from the aisles by two rows of massive clustered pillars, supporting six pointed arches on each side; above these on each side is a range of pointed recesses, which give to the structure a light and beautiful appearance. About the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth, a part of the chancel fell into ruins; and the adjoining chantry exhibited such marks of decay, that it was deemed expedient to take it down, and its revenues were

BOOK IV. transferred by charter in 1547, to endow and support a grammar school. The north and south aisles, at the same period, were also so much out of repair, that it was found necesssary to take them down, and they were rebuilt on a smaller scale, and in a style of architecture by no means corresponding with the original building: thus, the several windows containing in painted glass, the armorial bearings of the benefactors of the church, were destroyed; as also the large western window, in which were represented the several kings of Judah, branching off from the stem of Jesse. This alteration also obliterated and destroyed many of the ancient monuments, and memorials of eminent men, whose remains they covered. A few fragments of these memorials are still visible in the middle aisle. At the south end of the transept is the effigy of a knight in armour, of very rude sculpture, his head and feet resting upon couchant lions, and upon his surcoat are portrayed six lions, rampant, crowned. This statue has been vulgarly supposed to be the figure of Grymo, but is in reality the effigy of Sir Thomas Haslerton, knt., who in the reign of Henry III., re-edified the priory of St. Leonard in this town, from which place it was removed at the dissolution of monasteries. In the church yard is the fragment of a cross, the basement of which is considerably below the surface of the earth.

The Baptists, Independents, Primitive and Wesleyan Methodists, have each a place of worship in this town.

Monastic Edifices.

Besides a monastery of Grey Friars, a convent of Benedictine Nuns, a Franciscan convent and an Hospital, Grimsby had a priory of Augustine canons, founded by Henry I who liberally endowed, and conferred on it several privileges. These his son Henry II., confirmed and further granted, that the monks should enjoy their lands and rentals free from all exaction sand secular services; a proof of the power and influence of the religious orders during that period of our history.

Grammar School.

The Free Grammar School was founded in 1547, by letter patent of Edward VI., and endowed with the revenue of a suppressed chantry, which previously belonged to the church of St. James, for the support of a master to instruct the boys of parishioners gratuitously. The corporation lands are charged with the payment of £4. 5s. 6d. per annum, to the master of this school, which is further endowed with £7. per annum given by Catherine Mason, widow. The lands called the chantry farm, are worth about £150 per annum. The trustees of the institution are the body corporate, who depute six of their members to act as a committee, over which the mayor presides. The school is open for seventy boys, who are admitted when they can read the New Testament. There is no prescribed system of education.

Stow relates, that John Walsh, a native of this place, being accused of high treason, by a gentleman of Navarre, did, on St Andrew's day, in the eighth year of Richard II., A. D. 1385, enter the list to combat with the "Navarois, named Martiletto de Vilenos." that he might according to the custom of the times, refute the charge, by obtaining the victory over his antagonist; which having gained, his traducer was hanged for false accusation.

Dr. John Whitgift, Archbishop of Canterbury, a prelate distinguished for his piety and learning, was born here in the year 1530. Dr. Martin Fotherby, bishop of Salisbury, in the reign of James I., was also a native of this place, as was Gervase Holles, an industrious antiquary whom we have frequently quoted in the course of the present work.

In 1821, Great Grimsby, including the hamlet of Wellow, contained 687 houses, and 3064 inhabitants.

In the vicinity of Grimsby are several deep circular pits, called *Blow Wells*, the water of which rises even with the surface of the ground, but never overflows. Spittal-Hill is supposed to have been the site of an establishment of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem.

A stone, said to have been brought by the Danes out of their own country, and known by the appellation of "Haveloc's stone," forms a land mark between Grimsby and the hamlet of Wellow.

Of late years many objects of antiquity, have been discovered in Grimsby and its vicinity, which are for the most part in the possession of the Rev. George Oliver, vicar of Scopwick, whose antiquarian knowledge has been so usefully employed in investigating the parochial history of this county.

Aylesby.

AYLESBY is distant about four miles westward from Grimsby. The church, which is a curacy, is dedicated to St. Lawrence; the edifice is a neat structure consisting of a nave, chancel, and tower, but does not contain any inscription worthy of particular remark. The village once, contained a seat belonging to the Tyrwhitts, of which no remains are in existence. In 1821, this parish contained 26 houses, and 142 inhabitants.

Bradley.

BRADLEY, from whence the wapentake derives its name, is a depopulated village, distant about three miles south-west from Grimsby. The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £5. 10s. 10d. The church, dedicated to St. George, is an uninteresting structure, but in the church-yard is a shaft with an embattled coronal, which has once been surmounted by a cross. This parish in 1821, contained 17 houses, and 78 inhabitants.

Clee.

CLEE is situated in the liberty of Grimsby, from which town it is distant about one mile to the south-east. The name is said to be derived from the Celtic word "Cleis," signifying chalk, of which article its shores formed an extensive depository in Roman times for exportation, at a haven half way between Grimsby and Itterby, but now wholly filled up and obliterated. This place anciently contained under its jurisdiction, six hamlets, viz. Clee, Weelsby, Holm, Itterby, Hole, and Thrunscoe, the three former lying within the liberty of Grimsby, and the rest in the wapentake of Bradley Haverstow. Of these the hamlet of Holm is gone to decay, and Itterby and Hole, have lost their primitive names in the modern apellation of Cleethorpes.

Church.

The living is a vicarage, valued at £8, and in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. The church is very ancient, being dedicated to the Holy Trinity and St. Mary, by Hugh de Grenoble, bishop of Lincoln, in the year 1192, as is expressed in a latin inscription, in Saxon characters, cut in a square piece of marble, which is inlaid in one of the columns which separate the nave from the south aisle. The building is in the form of a cross with a tower at the west end. The south aisle is separated from the nave by one circular and two demi-clustered columns, with ponderous bases and rude capitals, from which spring two circular arches decorated with zig-zag, cable, and billet mouldings. The north aisle is separated by three small circular arches, one of which is ornamented, and the other two plain; these are sustained by square pillars with shafts of twisted and other ornamental work sunk in every angle. The other parts of the building are of the heavy pointed architecture. No sepulchral monuments are to be found here, except part of a stone once inlaid in brass, which is attached to one of the pillars. The font is very curious, being formed by two cylindrical parts, one placed upon the other, the top one being hollowed into the form of a bason.

 The chancel contains a double piscina on the south side of the altar, and an almery on the north.

The custom of strewing the interior of the church with grass, mown for the express purpose is here observed every Trinity Sunday, and a small piece of land which has been let for upwards of a century past for the trivial sum of thirteen shillings per annum, is said to have been left by a maiden lady, that the performance of this ceremony might be annually observed.

Few remains exist at the present day to mark the antiquity of this extensive parish. To the north of the village, however, and adjoining the eastern confines of Grimsby, are three artificial mounds of peculiar construction, which are supposed to have been thrown up by the Romanized Britons, as prominent sites for the erection of those little castellated towers which were so useful in repelling the incursions of the Saxons. This conjecture carries with it an air of probability, because the same kind of mounds are continued at similar distances from each other throughout the parish of Grimsby; thus forming a line of defence for their respective havens, which were the two principal landing places on this part of the coast. And to the south of the village, on an elevated ridge, is a small conical hill, still called "The Beacon," which was probably the work of the same people, if not of earlier date; for a regular series of these singular mounds, extends along the whole Lincolnshire coast. These mounds were doubtless used as beacons, from the apex of which to send up a fire by night, and a smoke by day, from the earliest times.

The Hall. In the village of Clee are the remains of an old building still known by the name of "The Hall," which has been fenced by an extensive moat, parts of which are distinctly visible. In the title deeds of the estate it is termed "Mordaunt Hall," and was formerly the residence of that noble family. The roof is thatched; the windows small and square with strong mullions of stone; the chimnies of that form known by the name of Elizabethan, and some of the richly carved oak wainscoting occupies its original situation in the principal apartment, and shews the peculiar taste which decorated the mansions of our fore-fathers.

The striking appearance of this venerable specimen of domestic architecture was defaced a few years since by the tenant, who covered the whole external surface with a coating of whitewash. It now belongs to R. Thorold, esq. of Weelsby House.

The manorial estates of Clee belong to the mayor and corporation of Grimsby. In 1821, the parish contained 104 houses, and 406 inhabitants.

About a mile to the westward of this village, and in this parish, is the site of Weelsby, once a considerable village, but of which only a few traces of foundations now remain.

Cleethorpe. CLEETHORPE though a separate constablewick is only a hamlet to the neigbouring parish of Clee. It is distant about two miles and a half south-eastward from Grimsby, and contained in 1821, 23 houses, and 154 inhabitants. Modern Cleethorpe, comprehending the ancient hamlets of Itterby and Hole, is now frequented as a place for sea-bathing. Many new lodging-houses have been recently erected, and the general accommodations much improved; and the civility and attention of the inhabitants, added to the salubrity of the air, pure and unsophisticated, whether proceeding from the German ocean on the one hand or the Wold hills on the other, will always render it a desirable summer retreat for the valetudinarian or the invalid. In the vicinity of this place are the Blow Wells, which we have mentioned in the description of Great Grimsby.

Great Coates

GREAT COATES is situated at the distance of about three miles westward from Grimsby. The parish is divided from that of Little Coates by the river Freshney, which passes between them in its course to Grimsby Haven. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a neat structure, but contains nothing that requires particular notice; the living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £11. 10s. 10d. In 1821, this parish contained 46 houses, and 171 inhabitants.

Little Coates

LITTLE COATES, situated about a mile and a half westward from Grimsby is a very small village which in 1821, contained only 13 houses, and 47 inhabitants. The living is a vicarage rated at £4. 18s. 4d., and is in the patronage of Trinity College, Cambridge. The church, which is dedicated to St. Michael, is a small structure consisting of a nave, with a south aisle, and a chancel.

Healing.

The village of HEALING, situated at the distance of about four miles north-westward from Grimsby, is said to have derived its name from the *healing* quality of two medicinal springs in the parish, which rise within three feet of each other, and are celebrated for their efficacy in curing all cutaneous disorders. One of these springs is used as a bath, the water of the other is drank; for although they are so close to each other, they are considered to possess different qualities. The church dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul is a rectory valued at £6. 4s. 2d. The structure which is very neat, consists of a tower, nave, and chancel. In 1821, the parish contained 16 houses, and 91 inhabitants.

Holton le Clay.

The village of HOLTON-LE-CLAY is distant about four miles southward from Grimsby, on the road from that place to Louth. The living is a vicarage in the gift of the crown, and valued at £4. 8s. 4d. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, consists of a nave and chancel, with a western tower, but possesses no features that are particularly interesting. In 1821, the parish contained 37 houses, and 220 inhabitants; it is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Humberston.

HUMBERSTON is situated at the distance of about four miles south-eastward from Grimsby, and probably derives its name from its locality near the mouth of the Humber. This village was formerly the property and seat of a family named Humberston, the first of which is traditionally said to have been a foundling from Homerton, near London, who was educated at Christ's Hospital, and having afterwards acquired great riches, purchased this estate, and altered his name to that of the village.

Church.

The living, which is a vicarage, is valued at £5. 18s. 4d. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a neat structure containing a splendid monument, erected to the memory of the above named gentleman, on which is a medallion with his bust, supported by a female figure in a mournful attitude. The inscription, which is very long, informs us that he gave £1000 to rebuild the church, £5000 to build a school house, and six alms rooms here, and £600 for the endowment of the alms houses. He also made an addition to the vicar's stipend and directed £300 to be laid out on a monument to his memory. He died at his manor house here on the 28th of August 1709, and lies interred in a vault under the communion table.

Although the church was rebuilt soon after the death of Mr. Matthew Humberston, with the sum bequeathed by him for that purpose, yet, through some unaccountable neglect, the money directed to be laid out in building and endowing the school and almshouses, and increasing the stipend of the vicar was not applied according to the directions of the founder, until more than a century after his decease; and it was not till the year 1821, that a residence for the vicar, a school, and the six alms houses were completed. The alms houses are appro-

BOOK IV. priated to poor widows, each of whom receives £16. per annum. The school is free to the children of this parish, and of the parishes of Laceby, Holton-le-Clay, Scartho, Clee, Cleethorpe, and Tetney.

Abbey. An abbey of Benedictines, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Peter, was founded here in the reign of Henry II., by William Fitz Ralph. At the dissolution it was valued at £42. 11s, 3d., and the site was granted in 1551 to John Cheke, esq. Of the building no traces are remaining.

In the year 1610 a dreadful storm devastated this parish, of which a circumstantial account was published at the time, but being by far too lengthy for our pages we must refer the curious reader to the volume itself.*

The manor is now the property of Lord Carrington. The seat of the Humberstons is demolished. In 1821, this parish contained 46 houses, and 217 inhabitants.

Irby. The village of IRBY is situated about five miles south-westward from Grimsby on the road to Caistor. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small modernized edifice, which appears from the circular arches, supported by ponderous pillars, dividing the nave from the aisles, to have been originally a Saxon or Norman structure. The living is a rectory valued at £18. In 1821, this parish contained 29 houses, and 217 inhabitants. It is parcel of the duchy of Lancaster.

Laceby. LACEBY, situated about three miles and a half south-westward from Grimsby, is one of the pleasantest villages in the county. The living is a rectory valued in the king's books at £12. 0s. 10d. The church, which is dedicated to St. Margaret, consists of a nave with ailes, a chancel, and a western tower; in the chancel is a monument to the memory of William Launde, who died in 1424.

In this village is a free school, founded in pursuance of the will of Mr. William Stamford, of this parish, dated June 27th, 1712, whereby certain lands were vested in trustees, for the erection of a school house, and dwelling house for a master, and the payment of a stipend to him for teaching the poor children, boys as well as girls, of Laceby, Bradley, and Barnoldby-le-Beck, reading, writing, and arithmetic. The founder also directs a discreet woman to be appointed by the trustees to teach the poor boys and girls of the respective parishes in her own house at Laceby, previous to their being placed in the school.

Laceby Hall, the seat of H. C. Oxendon, esq., occupies the lofty summit of a hill, and Laceby Manor House is the seat of P. Skipworth, esq. In 1821, this parish contained 106 houses, and 523 inhabitants.

Scartho. The village of SCARTHO is situated about two miles southward from Grimsby, on the road between that place and Louth. This living is a rectory valued at £8 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of Jesus College, Oxford. The church, dedicated to St. Giles, appears from the windows in the tower to have been originally a Saxon structure; the nave is of the early pointed style, and contains windows ornamented with tracery. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 37 houses, and 148 inhabitants.

* As the title of this book may answer all the purposes of the reader we have been induced to transcribe it at length: "Thunder, haile, and lightning from heaven against certaine covetous persons, inhabitants of Humberston, Lincolnshire, five miles from Grimsby, thought to be a just punishment from God in the behalfe of the poore, the 3d of July last, 1610; how the corne was destroyed, the like never heard of in any age, only one man's estate preserved, who gave them reliefe, as it was justified before the knights and justices of the countie, at the sessions held at Louth, the 10th daye of July."

Swallow.

Swallow is distant about four miles eastward from Caistor on the road between that place and Grimsby. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a small structure containing nothing whatever of interest. The living is a rectory, valued at £7 10s. 10d. In 1821, the parish contained 17 houses, and 122 inhabitants. Swallow is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Tetney.

Tetney is situated at the distance of about seven miles south-east from Grimsby, and twelve miles north-eastward from Louth. The church dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a spacious edifice, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a western tower, the latter of which exhibits a good specimen of pointed architecture. The living is a vicarage valued at £7 18s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln.

At this place was formerly a large square stone edifice, called the Tower, which was taken down about the year 1790; it is supposed to have been a cell to the neighbouring monastery of Humberston. The canal from Louth falls into the mouth of the Humber, at the eastern extremity of the parish. A fair is held in this village on the second Monday in July. In 1821, this place contained 128 houses, and 622 inhabitants. It is parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster.

South Division.

The South Division of the wapentake of Bradley Haverstoe, contains the following villages: Ashby cum Fenby, Barnoldby le Beck, Beelsby, Brigsley, Cabourn, North Coates, Cuxwold, Falstow, Grainsby, Hatcliffe, Hawerby, Marsh Chapel, East and West Ravendale, Rothwell, Swinhop, North Thoresby, Waithe, Waltham, and Wold Newton.

Ashby cum Fenby.

The village of Ashby is situated at the distance of about five miles and a half south-eastward from Grimsby. In 1821, the parish, including the hamlet of Fenby contained 46 houses, and 191 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £14 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the crown.

Barnoldby le Beck.

Barnoldby le Beck is about five miles south-westward from Grimsby. This village in 1821, contained 51 houses, and 220 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is a rectory, valued at £14 13s. 4d., and is in the patronage of Southwell College.

Beelsby.

The village of Beelsby is situated at the distance of about seven miles south-westward from Grimsby, and about four miles eastward from Caistor. According to the census of 1821, it contained at that period only 35 houses, and 160 inhabitants, but from the numerous traces of buildings to be found in the parish, it appears at an earlier period to have been more populous. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a mean contracted edifice, containing nothing whatever of interest. The living is a rectory, valued at £8 17s. 6d., and is in the donation of Southwell College.

Brigsley.

Brigsley is a small village, situated about six miles southward from Grimsby, on the turnpike road between that place and Louth. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is a rectory, valued at £7 4s. 4d., and in the patronage of the College of Southwell. In 1821, this parish contained 22 houses, and 94 inhabitants.

Cabourn.

Cabourn is a small village distant about two miles north-eastward from Caistor, which in 1821, contained 16 houses, and 105 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St, Nicholas, is a mean uninteresting edifice; the living is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £5 18s. 4d.

North Coates.

The village of North Coates is situated near the sea, at the distance of about eleven

BOOK IV. miles north-eastward from Louth, and nine miles south-eastward from Grimsby. The living is a rectory valued at £12 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the king, as duke of Lancaster. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, consists of a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel, and a tower at the western end, the latter of which has swerved considerably from the perpendicular. In 1821, the number of houses contained in this parish was 34, and of inhabitants 154.

Cuxwold. CUXWOLD is a small depopulated village, situated about four miles eastward from Caistor. In 1821, it contained only 5 houses, and 60 inhabitants. The manorial estates are in the possession of Lord Yarborough. The church is a very small structure, dedicated to St. Nicholas; the living is a rectory valued at £5. 7s. 6d.

Fulstow. The village of FULSTOW is situated about eight miles northward from Louth, and in 1821, contained 85 houses, and 389 inhabitants. The living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £8. 10s. 3d. The church, which is dedicated to St. Lawrence, is a small mean structure presenting but little that is interesting to the antiquarian.

Grainsby. GRAINSBY is distant about seven miles southward from Grimsby, and in 1821, contained 15 houses, and 114 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas is a rectory, valued at £9. 18s. 4d.

Hatcliffe. HATCLIFFE is a depopulated village at the distance of about seven miles south westward from Grimsby. The living is a rectory, valued at £5. 4s. 2d., and is in the patronage of Southwell College. The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, consists of a nave, chancel, and tower; on the floor are several stones with defaced inscriptions around their verges. In 1821, this parish, including the hamlet of Gunaby, contained 17 houses, and 99 inhabitants.

Hawerby. The little village of HAWERBY is situated about seven miles south-westward from Grimsby. In 1821, this parish, including the hamlet of Beesby, contained only 10 houses, and 55 inhabitants. The church dedicated to St. Margaret, is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £5 7s. 11d., and is in the gift of Southwell College. Adjacent is Hawerby Hall, the seat of T. Harnis, esq.

Marsh-chapel MARSH CHAPEL is distant about ten miles north-east from Louth, and about two miles from the sea. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a very handsome structure, consisting of a nave with aisles, a chancel, and a western tower. Over the south entrance is a scroll, containing in ancient characters, "Orantibus in loco isto dimitte," and over the north entrance is another scroll on which is inscribed "Non est hic aliud nisi domus Dei et porta celi." In the floor of the north aisle are several stones with inscriptions round their verges, one of which is inscribed to Johanna, the wife of William Colley, who died in 1455, the others are not decypherable. In the south wall of the chancel is a small monument, containing the kneeling figures of a man and two women, under which is an inscription to the memory of Walter Harpham, who died in 1617, and Ann, his wife, who died in the same year, and of Alice their daughter, the wife of Thomas Phillips, esq., who died in 1628. This living is a curacy in the presentation of the inhabitants. In 1821, the parish contained 77 houses, and 411 inhabitants.

East Ravendale. EAST RAVENDALE is about seven miles south-westward from Grimsby, and about twelve miles and a half north-westward from Louth, on the turnpike road between those towns. The church, dedicated to St. Martin is a vicarage, valued at £5., and is in the patronage of Trinity College, Cambridge. West Ravendale is a township of this parish. Here was a

priory, founded by Alan, son of Henry, Earl of Brittany, in 1202, which was subordinate to the Præmonstratensian abbey of Beaufort in Brittany.* It was granted in 1438, by Henry VI. to Southwell College, In 1821, this parish contained 13 houses, and 63 inhabitants.

Rothwell.

The village of ROTHWELL is about two miles and a half south-eastward from Caistor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, appears from the windows in the tower, to have been originally a Saxon or Norman structure; the building is now considerably reduced in size, in consequence of the aisles having been taken away. The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £7 10s. 10d. In 1821, this parish contained 42 houses, and 197 inhabitants.

Swinhop.

SWINHOP is situated about six miles south-eastward from Caistor. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is a rectory, valued at £4. 17s. 8d. In 1821, the parish contained 19 houses, and 94 inhabitants.

North Thoresby.

NORTH THORESBY is situated at the distance of about ten miles south-eastward from Grimsby, and in 1821, contained 88 houses, and 484 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Helen is a rectory, valued at £24. 10s. 10d.

In this parish was born Dr. Robert Mapletoft, an eminent divine, who served the office of vice chancellor of the university of Cambridge, in 1671, and died at Pembroke Hall, of which he was master, in 1677. He was esteemed for the many pious and charitable acts in his life time; and at his death, after many legacies and charitable donations, he bequeathed one hundred pounds towards purchasing Golius's collection of Oriental books for the university library; and, in case that design was not executed, then to some permanent university use. To the cathedral of Ely, he bequeathed his books, and to the dean and chapter, a piece of land for the increase of the stipends of the singing men. In a codicil attached to his will, he gave to the use of North Thoresby, two cottages and one messuage, with all his lands in the same parish, to be vested in trustees for the maintenance of a schoolmaster, to instruct the children there in reading, writing, arithmetic, the church catechism, and the accidence. He also gave several pieces of land in Saltfleetby to the use of the town of Louth, for the maintenance of a schoolmaster to teach the children there in the like manner, as in his gift to North Thoresby. He gave, likewise, to the master, fellows, and scholars of Pembroke Hall, lands in Coveney, for ever, on condition that they should pay yearly to two poor scholars, to be called his exhibitioners, four pounds each, and that they lay out forty shillings yearly in good books, for the library of the said college.

Waith.

WAITH is situated on the Tetney river, at the distance of about six miles southward from Grimsby. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is a vicarage, valued at £2 14s. 2d. In 1821, the parish contained only 6 houses, and 30 inhabitants.

Waltham.

WALTHAM, situated about three miles and a half southward from Grimsby, contained in

* The Præmonstratensian canons were those who followed certain rules laid down by St. Norbert, in 1120. This order obtained its name (in Latin, *Præmonstratus,*) from a story told by the monks. They declared that their founder received his rules bound in gold from the hand of St. Augustine, whose apparition came to him in the night! After this distinguished visit, it was alleged that St. Norbert received another visit from an angel, who showed him the meadow in which he was to build his first monastery; from which circumstance, it was called Præmonstratus (or Prémonstré,) meaning *Fore-shown.*

1821, 112 houses, and 526 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, valued at £15 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of Southwell College.

Wold Newton.

WOLD NEWTON, or Newton upon the Wolds, is distant about nine miles southward from Grimsby. In 1821, the parish contained 15 houses, and 125 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, valued at £7 10s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Durham. In a large tumulus, containing an area of more than three acres, upwards of twenty urns were discovered in 1828; they were of various sizes and shapes, and were all broken except three, which have been preserved by the Rev. G. Oliver; they are conjectured to be British and funereal.

BOOK. V.

TOPOGRAPHY OF THE PARTS OF KESTEVAN.

CHAPTER I.

THE WAPENTAKES OF FLAXWELL, LANGOE, BOOTHBY GRAFFO, AND LOVEDEN.

Kestevan.

KESTEVAN, the third great division of the county, is bounded on the north and north-east by the river Witham, which separates it from Lindsey; on the east by the division of Holland; on the south by the river Welland, which divides it from Northamptonshire; and by parts of Nottingham, Leicester, and Rutlandshires, on the west. This district is subdivided into ten wapentakes, and contains seven market towns, viz., Bourne, Corby, Market Deeping, Folkingham, Grantham, Sleaford, and Stamford, with one hundred and eighty-one parishes. The features of this division are very diversified, and the soils greatly varied; the western part is fine arable as well as grazing land, and parts of it are well wooded; more particularly the wapentake of Beltisloe. About Sleaford is a tract of fertile pasture land, sufficiently dry for sheep; and yet calculated for fattening large cattle. The variations of soil are nearly all in a longitudinal direction from north to south. The south-western part contains some handsome seats of the nobility and gentry, and abounds with woods, particularly about Belton, Denton, and Grimsthorpe. The eastern side of the division is low and swampy, partaking of the nature of the adjacent marsh lands in the division of Holland. The south-western part was at a former period denominated a forest, as well as fen; and formed part of the possessions of Leofric, earl of Mercia, who was lord of Brune and the adjoining marshes. In the time of Henry I., it was enlarged and afforested by royal mandate. The extent, as described by Dugdale, "was from the bridge of Market Deeping, to the church of Swaiston, on the one side; and from the bridge of Bicker, and Wragmere Stake, on the other side; which metes divided the north parts; and the river of Welland the south; excepting the fen of Goggisland, in regard it was a sanctuary of holy church, as belonging to the abbey of Croyland. And being thus made forest, it continued so until king Henry the third's time, who, in the sixteenth year of his reign, granted unto

BOOK V. all the inhabitants within the same, that it should thenceforth be disafforested."* "The men of Kestevan gave 250 marcs to have the king's charter, for disforesting this of Kestevan, according to the boundaries contained in that charter."† This division having been mostly inclosed, drained and cultivated, contains much rich and valuable land.‡

Flaxwell Wapentake. The wapentake of Flaxwell is bounded on the north and east by Langoe wapentake; on the south by Aswardhurn Wapentake, and on the west by Loveden Wapentake. It contains the market town of New Sleaford, and the villages of Anwick, Ashby, Bloxham, Braunceweil, Cranwell, Digby, Dorrington, Leasingham, North Rauceby, South Rauceby. Roulston, Roxham, Ruskington, and Temple Brewer.

New Sleaford. NEW SLEAFORD is a considerable market town, situated at the distance of about eighteen miles southward from Lincoln. It is situated upon a small rivulet, called the Slea which rises in the vicinity, and runs to Chapel Hill, where it joins the river Witham. Many Roman coins of the Constantine family, have been found about the spring head, near the castle. Stukely, from this and other circumstances, conjectures that this was a Roman town. Sleaford consists of three principal streets, formed by the roads from Grantham to Tattershall, and from Market Deeping to Lincoln. It is of respectable appearance, and is rapidly improving in buildings and importance; it is well paved and lighted, and the inhabitants are supplied with water from an adjacent spring, called Bully, or Boiling Wells. A canal connects this town with Boston, Lincoln, and the Trent navigation, and thus promotes the prosperity of its general trade.

Castle. A castle appears to have been erected here at an early period, but of its history there are few records. It was standing in Leland's time, and is thus described by him: "Withoute the towne of Sleford standith, west-south-west, the propre castell of Sleford, very well maintayned; and it is compassed with a ronning stremo, cumming by a cut, oute of a little foene, lying almoste flatte weste againste it. In the gateway be two portcullices, a high touro in the middle of the castelle, but not sett upon a hill of raised earth: the vaultes of the castell by the grounde be fairo, the house, or manor place, lately almoste new, buildid of stone and timbre by the lorde Husey, standith southward, withoute the toune. The toune or market is of no price; the ornaments of it is the bishop of Lincolne's castell, and the late lorde Husey's house."§ Since Leland's time the castle has been wholly levelled with the ground, and lord Husey's mansion, at Old Sleaford, is now a farm house.

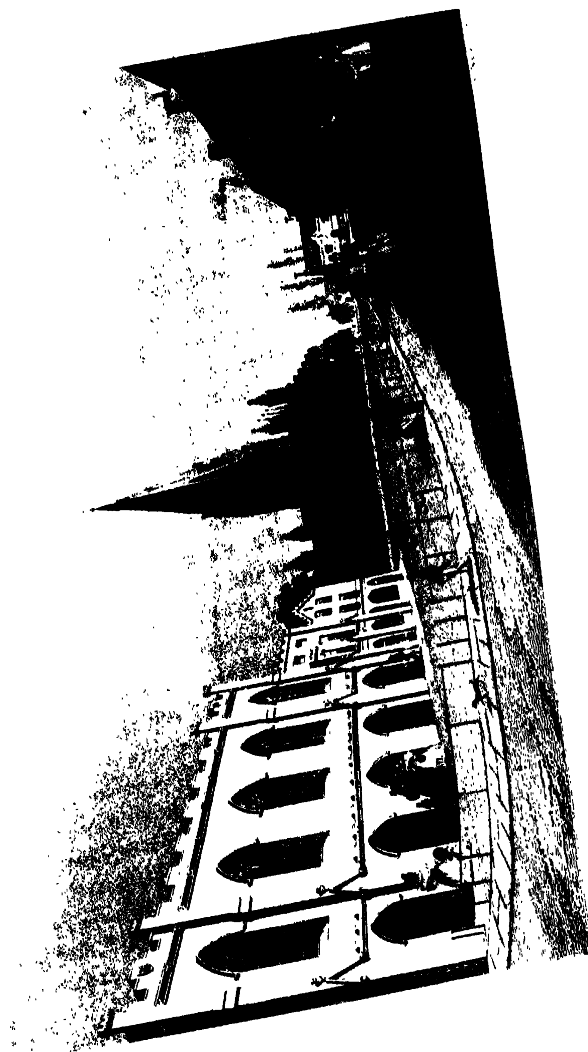
Church. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the prebendary of Lafford, or New Sleaford, in the cathedral church of Lincoln, rated in the king's books at £8. The church, dedicated to St. Denis, exhibits some fine specimens of almost every style of English architecture, and consists of a nave, aisles, a large chapel on the north side, a chancel, and a tower, crowned by a spire, which rises to the height of 144 feet. From a manuscript found in the parish chest, this edifice appears to have been built

* Dugdal's Imbanking and Draining, p. 194. 195.

† Mag. Rot. 14. Hen. III. Linc. iii. 2, 6, as quoted in Gough's Camden.

‡ Beauties Eng. and Wales, vol. IX. p. 751-2.

§ Leland's Itinerary, fol. 80.



in the year 1271, by Roger Blount, and Roger Brickham, of Sleaford, merchants. The western front is curious, and rather elegant in its design and ornaments. It has three entrance doorways, each having a differently shaped arch; and above these are three windows, also varying from each other. Part of this façade displays the circular style, which was probably erected by bishop Alexander. The windows, pinnacles, and ornaments are all greatly diversified, and some of them particularly elegant. In the chancel, are three fine stalls in the latter style; at its entrance are the screen and canopy of the ancient rood loft. Here are several monuments to the family of Carr, some of whom were long resident in the neighbourhood; one to the memory of Joseph Carr, who died September 11th, 1590; another to Sir Edward Carr, who died October 1st, 1618; and a third to Robert Carr, chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, and a privy councillor who died November 14th, 1682.

In this town are also places of worship, for those in the connexion of the late countess of Huntingdon, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists.

Town Hall.

The old Town Hall, or sessions' house, being greatly dilapidated, a new Gothic edifice has recently been erected, from a design by Mr. Kondall; and the inhabitants, by voluntary subscriptions, have repaired the town, widened the bridge, and very materially added to the comforts and convenience of the place. The quarter sessions for the parts of Kestevan, are held here by adjournment, from Bourne.

Theatre.

In this town is a small, but very neat Theatre, which was erected in the year 1824.

Charities.

The Free Grammar School was founded in 1604, by Robert Carr, esq., who endowed it with £29 per annum; the master, who must be a graduate of one of the Universities, is appointed by the marquis of Bristol, as owner of the "late fair castle of Sleaford," for which he pays to the crown £40 per annum. The children of the town and neighbourhood, are instructed gratuitously. A school was endowed with lands by William Alvey, in 1729, for the instruction of poor children; twenty boys and twenty girls are educated. An Hospital, for a chaplain, and twelve poor men, was founded and endowed by Sir Robert Carr, bart., in 1636; the alms-men have weekly allowances of ten shillings and sixpence each, and a certain quantity of coal, with comfortable apartments; and the chaplain a salary of £20 per annum, to officiate, in a chapel attached.

Sleaford has a well supplied market on Monday, and five annual fairs; on Plough Monday, Easter Monday, Whit Monday, August 11th, and October 20th, for horses, cattle, sheep and provisions. The number of houses returned under the census of 1821, was 436, and 2220 inhabitants, including the hamlet of Holdingham.

A branch of the ancient Ermin Street, passes through this parish, and that of Old Sleaford. Stukeley, speaking of the Roman roads, says, "At Sleaford I am inclined to think another road came from Banovallum or Horncastle, to the east of the river Bane, southward by Lysyates, and so cross the Witham by chapel Hill: and the Cardyke somewhere about Kyme; or else crossed the Witham at the Hermitage, so went by Swineshead north end, to Donington."*

Anwick.

The village of ANWICK is situated, about five miles north-eastward from Sleaford, and contained, according to the returns of 1821, 246 inhabitants. The living is a discharged

* Itinerary, page 43.

BOOK V. vicarage, rated in the king's books at £5 13s. 11½d. The church, dedicated to St. Edith, is rather a spacious edifice, with a spire built of an excellent durable stone. The interior of the edifice consists of a nave, with north and south aisles; the nave is supported by six slender pillars, terminating in pointed arches; those on the north being surmounted with a handsome fretwork border, which descends to the pavement along the pillars, at the east and west end extremities. There is a frame for an hour glass still fixed in the pillar, at the north east end of the nave. Some small remnants of stained glass are thinly scattered throughout the windows. In the church-yard is a slender fluted column, about four feet high, which is supposed once to have supported a cross. The living is in the gift of the marquis of Bristol.

Ashby de la Launde.

ASHBY DE LA LAUNDE is distant about seven miles to the north-eastward of Sleaford. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated at £6 8s. 4d., and is endowed with £200 royal bounty, The church, dedicated to St. Hibald, consists of one aisle, or nave, and a small chancel, but from the appearance of two arches, with corresponding pillars, in the north wall, it appears that there was formerly an aisle on that side.

The seat of the King family is pleasantly situated in the centre of the village, and appears, from a date thereon, to have been built in the year 1595, by Edward King, Esq. This mansion has not been occupied by the family of King for a number of years, it is now occupied by W. Gardiner, Esq. In 1821, Ashby contained 25 houses, and 155 inhabitants.

Bloxham.

BLOXHAM is situated about five miles northward from Sleaford. The living is a rectory, with the vicarage of Digby, and is rated in the king's books at £9 9s. 4½d. The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, is a compact plain stone building, consisting of a nave, side aisles, chancel, and a tower, with a porch on the south side. The nave is supported by four octagonal pillars, terminating in pointed arches, over which rise six small windows; the roof of the nave is neatly groined, as is also the chancel, at the east end of which is a handsome window of stained glass, shewing the armorial bearings of the Manners family.

The manor house or hall, the residence of Mrs. Manners, is situated north of the village, and commands a most extensive view over the heath on the west. The house is a fine old family mansion, which a few years since underwent a complete and substantial repair. In 1821, this parish contained 109 inhabitants.

This village is celebrated as being the native place of John de Bloxham, a Carmelite Friar, eminent for his learning and ability, who flourished A.D. 1334.

Brauncewell.

The village of BRAUNCEWELL, is situated at the distance of about four miles and a half north from Sleaford, and in 1821, contained 77 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, united with Anwick and Dunsby, and is rated at £9 18s. 11½d. The church, dedicated to All Saints, contains nothing that is remarkable.

Cranwell.

CRANWELL is a small retired village, situated about four miles north-west from Sleaford. The living is a discharged vicarage, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of Sir John H. Thorold. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, consists of a nave, north aisle, chancel and porch, all on a very reduced scale, having neither tower nor spire. The aisle is separated from the nave, by three pillars of immense strength, supporting beautiful circular arches, giving a character of great antiquity. Some of the oak stalls still remain, and some modern pews have been introduced.

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 155 inhabitants.

Digby.

DIGBY is a populous village, situated six miles north east of Sleaford, on the low road to Lincoln. The living is a discharged vicarage, united in 1717 to the rectory of Bloxham, and is rated in the king's books at £5 2s. 11d. The church, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, is a neat gothic structure of stone, and consists of a lofty spire, a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel and porch. The nave is separated from the aisles by eight slender pillars, supporting pointed arches, over which are twelve clerestory windows. In the south aisle is a piscina, as well as another in the chancel, which is, as usual parted from the nave by a gothic screen. In the north-east window is a small quantity of stained glass. There is not a single monumental inscription in the church, but there are three plain altar tombs in the church-yard, two of which are to the memory of a family named Cooke. There is a stone cross, in a high state of preservation near the south-east of the church, which being the only one in this part of the country, is an object of much interest.

By the following extract from the register book, it appears that the plague raged here in the year 1604. "Memorandum: That in an old register belonging to this parish, is found a great mortality, one hundred and thirty four funerals, and most of them in July, August, and September, in 1604, being about the first year of James I., and compared with the history of that time, was undoubtedly the plague. J. W."

In 1821 this parish contained 54 houses, and 277 inhabitants.

Dorrington.

DORRINGTON is a small village, situated about five miles north-east of Sleaford. The living is a discharged vicarage rated at £6. 3s. 9d., and endowed with £200 royal bounty. The church, which is situated nearly half a mile north of the village, is dedicated to St. James, and was formerly appropriated to the priory of Haverholm. The structure is of stone, having a low tower, a nave separated from the north and south aisles by four pillars, bearing pointed arches, over which are six circular arched windows, and a chancel. The church has several oak stalls, which are carved with curious devices. In the chancel are numerous monuments, chiefly to the memory of various branches of the families of Oldfield and Todkill, who for a long period resided in this village.

In this place was also a chapel of ease, or oratory, called Shefford, which is supposed to have stood upon that spot adjoining the ford, now known by the name of Chapel Hill. About the year 1698, however, both church and chapel being much dilapidated, the latter was taken down and the materials applied to the repairs of the church.

Ancient Custom.

On St. Bartholomew's Day, (August 24) the following custom prevailed in this village. In the morning a number of maidens, clad in their best attire, went in procession to a small chapel, then standing in this parish, and strewed its floor with rushes, from whence they proceeded to a piece of land, called the "Play Garths," where they were joined by most of the inhabitants of the place, who passed the remainder of the day in rural sports, such as football, wrestling, and other athletic exercises, with dancing, &c. The pastimes, however, are not confined to St. Bartholomew's day, but occur at other times of the year; as the "Garths" was left by an inhabitant for the young men and women of the village to play in *

In the parish of Dorrington are several charitable donations to the poor, left by different members of the above named families.

* Hone's Year Book, page 984.

BOOK V. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 284 families.

Leasingham. The village of LEASINGHAM, which is situated at the distance of about two miles north of Sleaford, is traversed by the turnpike road leading from London to Hull, by way of Lincoln. The manor appears to have been in the hands of David de Fletwicke, in the time of Edward I. We then find it possessed by a descendant of Sir Richard Yorke, knight, sometime mayor of the staple at Calais, who died A. D. 1448, with the female branches of which family it still remains.

Church. There were formerly two churches in this parish, viz, the south rectory, dedicated to St. Andrew ; and the north rectory, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It is now uncertain at what time the latter was destroyed, nor is it positively known when the two rectories were united though it was probably about the year 1754, at which time the incumbent is said to be rector of the north and south rectories. The site of the north church cannot now be traced, but it is supposed to have stood on the hill, at the north end of the town, near which in a pasture, is the base of a cross, which probably once stood either in the church-yard, or very near it.

The south church, which now serves for the whole of the parish, is remarkable for its beautiful and interesting steeple. The church itself is small, and has suffered the loss of its choir or chancel, of which the foundations may yet be traced. The nave has only one aisle, on the south, from which it is divided by three pointed arches, springing from pillars handsomely moulded. The font is octangular, and well worthy the attention of the curious. Near the pulpit still remains an iron skeleton frame for an hour glass. Mr. Creasey says, " with respect to the use of the hour glass in churches, it was customary for the length of the sermon to be regulated by it; for when the priest ascended the pulpit, he or his clerk turned the glass, and when it had run its time, his sermon was to be concluded."*

At the end of an ancient building, situated on the hill at the north end of the town, is this inscription,—I. E. P. *aspice viator et memento te mortalem esse, Anno Domini* 1687. One Poyntell lived here, and I. E. P, most probably were the initials of him and his wife, The date 1650, is also carved on the chimney. There is also another ancient house in the centre of the town, with a blank shield in the centre.

The site of the mansion formerly inhabited by the Yorks, is readily known by the remains of the stone pillars on each side the carriage entrance from the Sleaford road, the coach house, extensive walled gardens, &c. Sir William York resided in this hall, previous to his removing to Burton Pedwardine, where he died in 1681. William, son of the above, appears to have occupied this mansion, at the time the disturbances are said to have taken place there, and which were supposed to have been occasioned by witchcraft.†

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 259 inhabitants.

North Rauceby. NORTH RAUCEBY is situated about four miles to the westward from Sleaford. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated at £5 1s. 0½., endowed with £400 private benefaction, and 400 royal bounty. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, consists of a nave, side aisles,

* History of Sleaford, page 294.

† For circumstantial details, see Creasey's History of Sleaford, page 299.

chancel, tower, and steeple. The nave, which is supported by eight pillars, has been raised to admit of a clerestory. The font is octagonal, each compartment ornamented with rosettes in relief. In the south aisle is a piscina and a locker, which are now concealed by the pews. CHAP. I.

There was formerly a market kept here in a piece of ground, called the Green, on the north side of the church, which has been long discontinued.

Bayard's Leap.

A solitary house, situated on the Hermen Street, at the intersection of the road leading from Sleaford to Newark, and at the north west boundary of this parish, has been represented by the credulous as the residence of a witch, who punished every one that, either from accident or design, approached her cave. Another story which is told of this personage is, the taking of a prodigious leap on a horse called Bayard. The holes in which the horses feet are said to have rested, are still kept open, and Dr. Stukeley makes mention of them in his Itinerarium Curiosum, but supposes them to be nothing more than the boundaries, of four parishes. A district near Bicester, Oxon, was called Bayards Green, and one of the three places appointed by Richard I., for the first authorized tournaments held in England. On Bayard's Green in Northamptonshire, in the year 1249, was also held a famous tournament. Query, may not the Bayard's Leap now under notice, have derived its name from some similar appointment?

Near Parham Dam, is a beacon in good preservation, and now planted with trees. The fire might be seen at Swineshead, Bicker, and Donnington, which would enable the inhabitants to secrete, or secure their property, on the approach of the Danish marauders.

In 1821, North Rauceby contained 252 inhabitants.

South Rauceby.

SOUTH RAUCEBY is a joint parish with North Rauceby, and is situated at the distance of about three miles and a half westward from Sleaford. The church or chapel, formerly standing here, was dedicated to St. James, and stood on the north side of the village. This chapel was appropriated to the priory of Shelford, in Nottinghamshire, and most probably fell at the dissolution of that house. Certain it is, however, that it was not in existence about the year 1640, for Gervaise Holles, speaking of South Rauceby, says, "In this place the church is down."

In the centre of this village is the residence of Adlard Welby, Esq. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 255 inhabitants.

Roulston.

The village of ROULSTON is situated in a secluded situation at the distance of about seven miles north east of Sleaford. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £6 6s. 2½d. The church, dedicated to St. Clement, is a small edifice presenting but little that is interesting to the general observer. On what is called the Green, a little distance from the church, are the remains of a cross.

The manor house adjoining the west side of the church-yard, presents a very lengthened and handsome front towards the south. In 1821, this parish contained 123 inhabitants.

Roxholm.

ROXHOLM is a hamlet in the parish of Leasingham, from which place it is distant about one mile to the northward. Here was formerly a chapel or oratory, annexed to the church at Leasingham, which was standing in the year 1560; but when destroyed, or where situated is now unknown. The former event, however, probably occurred very early in the

BOOK V. reign of queen Elizabeth, and the site of the chapel is supposed to be in a small pasture, on the east of an ancient family house. Large stones have been dug up in this field, which had evidently been used in some building of importance.

The family mansion just alluded to, retains much of the character of former times, and can scarcely fail to gratify the curiosity of those who may feel inclined to examine it minutely. In the year 1821, this hamlet contained 87 inhabitants.

Ruskington. The village of RUSKINGTON is situated about four miles north-east of Sleaford, on what is called the by-way, or low road to Lincoln. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated at £3 17s. 3½d., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and is in the patronage of the crown. The church, dedicated to All Saints, has not much to interest an antiquary, if we except the font, and one richly wrought pillar. The nave is separated from each of its aisles by three Gothic arches, resting on pillars: those on the south side are of different architecture, one being exceedingly curious and of a non-descript style, as is also the half, or terminating pillar in the east wall The font, which is enclosed within a pew at the west end of the north aisle, is of octagonal shape; the several divisions are ornamented with shields, bearing different devices, four having roses and finials, and three of the remaining four, bear either arms or symbolical figures, but are so plastered with yellow wash as to be rendered undistinguishable, while the eighth, and last division bears an emblem of the crucifixion, viz. two scourges, and two spears cross-wise.

Charities. The charitable donations to the poor of this village are very inconsiderable, with the exception of Lady Hodgson's, widow and relict of Sir Thomas Hodgson, of Roulston, knight, who by will bearing date 1719, gave to trustees therein named, certain lands, tenements, &c., the profits of which were to be applied towards the maintenance of three poor women, past labour, inhabitants of Roulston and Ruskington, but of Roulston chiefly, each of whom receives one shilling and sixpence weekly, and twenty shillings yearly for firing. Besides this they receive fifty shillings every two years, and the like sum the third year, towards providing them with apparel and other necessaries. She also directed her trustees to pay tén pounds annually to a schoolmaster for instructing ten poor children of the above two parishes, in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and to fit them for business. She likewise left ten pounds per annum for apprenticing two boys.

There is also a trifling annuity left by Mrs. Martha Chamberlain, in the year 1702, for educating ten poor children.

An inscription and armorial bearing in a lozenge, in the gable of an old house a little north of the church, point out the dwelling of Lady Hodgson's three poor women. A new school room of neat appearance was erected a few years since, for the children.

In 1821, this parish contained 678 inhabitants.

Haverholm Priory. In the parish of Ruskington, stands Haverholm Priory, the property and residence of Sir Jenison William Gordon, Bart. It is situated about four miles east by north of Sleaford, on an island of 300 acres, formed by two branches of the Sleaford river, which, dividing itself at about two miles and a half from that place, unites again three miles lower.

The earliest mention we have found relating to this religious house, is in Dugdale, who informs us that " Alexander Bishop of Lincoln gave the island, then called Halfreholm, afterwards St. Mary, with all its appurtenances, free from all burdens, for building of this mo-

nastery of the order of Sempringham, in the year 1139." Tanner tells us, that "this place was first given by Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, to the Cisterian monks of Fountains Abbey in Yorkshire, about the year 1137, that they might build an Abbey of that order; but after having made some progress in the same, they pretended not to like the situation, and thereupon removed to Louth Park."

How this property came into the hands of the bishop, it is not in our power to discover, but we find that after the monks of Fountains Abbey had quitted it, he "quickly disposed of the island to the new and strict order of St. Gilbert of Sempringham," who most probably completed what the others had begun. This order of religious settled here in 1239, and after existing four hundred years, William Hall, prior, and six canons, surrendered the Priory to King Henry VIII. September 5th 1539. The income at its dissolution, according to Speed, was £88 5s. 5d. per annum.

The present possessor of Haverholm has made great additions to the remains of the ancient buildings, and in a style corresponding with the circumstances of the place. It is in the lordship of Ewerby, and separated from the home grounds by the southern branch of the Sleaford river, over which is the ancient Nuns' Bridge.

Since its dissolution as a religious house, Haverholm Priory has been the property of the Clintons, Abdys, &c. until the year 1763, when it was purchased of Sir John Shaw, bart. by the late Sir Samuel Gordon, bart. father of the present owner.*

Temple Brewer.

TEMPLE BREWER, or TEMPLE BRUERN, is an extra-parochial district, situated at the distance of about six miles northward from Sleaford. Here is the site of a preceptory, founded previous to the year 1185; it was first occupied by the Knights Templars, and afterwards by the Hospitalers, who had annexed such possessions to it, as were valued twenty sixth of Henry VIII., at £184 6s. 8d. per annum.† The church is said to have been built after the model of that of St. Sepulchre at Jerusalem. "There be great and vaste buildinges," says Leland, "but rude at this place, and the este ende of the temple is made *opere circulari de more.*"‡ At present only a few vaults, and the tower of the church are left. The latter is a massy quadrangular building, and is accessible to the top by a winding stone staircase. The lower part, used by the occupier of an adjacent farm house, is nearly entire; it has a window with a double pointed arch, and the entrance is by a receding circular-headed doorway. The ground is considerably raised or mounded, for about fifteen yards from this door.

In digging the foundation for a stable, east of the tower, a few years since several basement stones for pillars, and one with a shaft of a round indented column were discovered. West of the tower is a hollow, supposed to have been the ancient well, in which were found some years ago, three church bells and some bars of iron. A well still in use, is a great curiosity on account of its vast diameter.

* Creasey's History of Sleaford, &c. page 332.

† Tanner's Notit. Monast.

‡ Itinerary, Vol. 1. fol. 32.

BOOK V. The dwelling house, which is about thirty yards south of the tower, has in different parts of it, an appearance of much antiquity, particularly the copings of the north gable, in which there is a small gothic window, with rich tracery. Some of the passages within were vaulted and groined. From these circumstances it is probable that this building formed part of the residence of the knights.

Opposite Temple Brewer, Stukeley describes his having seen a stone cross, "cut through in the shape of that borne by the knights templars," and which he supposed was erected to mark the boundary of their demesnes. "The Hermin Street, hereabout is very bold and perfect, made of stone, gathered all along from the superficial quarries. It goes perfectly strait from Ancaster to Lincoln, full north, butting upon the west side of Lincoln town. It is about thirty feet broad, made of stone, piled into an easy convexity. There is generally, likewise a little trench dug on both sides of the road.*

In 1821, this parish contained 5 houses and 52 inhabitants.

Langoe Wapentake. LANGOE WAPENTAKE is bounded on the north by Lawress Wapentake, and Wraggoe Wapentake; on the east by Gartree Wapentake; on the south by Flaxwell and Aswardhurn Wapentakes; and on the west by Boothby Graffo Wapentake, and Lincoln Liberty. It is separated into the first and second divisions.

First Division. The first division contains the villages of Billinghay, with Dogdyke and Walcott, Kirkby Green, Martin, Timberland and Thorpe Tinley.

Billinghay. BILLINGHAY is situated a little to the left of the turnpike road, leading from Sleaford to Tattershall, at about nine miles eastward of the former, and five west of the latter place. In 1821 this parish, with the township of Dogdyke and the hamlet of Walcott, contained 1554 inhabitants, of which number 851 belonged to the parish of Billinghay. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £13 14s., and is in the patronage of Earl Fitzwilliam. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, consists of a nave and two side aisles, terminating in a chancel, with a spire steeple at the west end. The roof of the nave, which is ornamented with heads and other architectural decorations, is supported by six clustered columns, having pointed arches, above which are, on each side, four small clerestory windows. On the south is a porch having a circular or Norman arch, resting on round pillars.

There are in this place three chapels belonging to the Independents, Calvinists, and Wesleyan Methodists.

In the fenny and moory parts of this parish, as well as several others in the lower parts of the division of Kesteven, innumerable roots of trees, and several whole ones, but completely black from time, have been dug up. There have also been found several boats, or canoes, made of the hollowed trunks of trees, as also the skeleton of a crocodile, enclosed in a flat stone, which is now in the Museum of the Royal Society in London.†

Walcott. WALCOTT, a hamlet belonging to Billinghay, is situated at the distance of about two miles north from that village. There was formerly a chapel in this place, dedicated to St.

* Itin. Curios. p. 82.

† Creasey's Sleaford, p. 159.

Oswald, which was situated in the centre of the town, about two hundred yards west of the present Methodists chapel. It was taken down about fifty years ago; but had not been used for public worship for some years previous to that time. It consisted of one principal aisle and a chancel, parted by a carved oak screen. The site is now occupied as a garden. CHAP. I.

Catteley Priory.

At Catteley, about one mile westward from Walcott, stood the priory of Catteley, founded by Peter de Billinghay, in the reign of King Stephen, for nuns and brethren of the Gilbertine, or Sempringham order, which was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was valued at £38 13s. 8d. per annum, and was granted in 1539 to Sir Robert Carr, of Sleaford. About fifty years since, on removing some rubbish, was discovered about six feet below the surface, what was supposed to have been the floor of the church of this priory, which appeared to have consisted of a nave and two aisles, having large stone slabs laid in the usual manner of our church pavements. Some of the slabs were mutilated, and others had inscriptions upon them; one of which with a cross down its centre, and Saxon capitals along its border, quite perfect, lay for several years exposed to the weather. This slab the occupier of the field has at length removed, and put down in his kitchen as a hearth-stone. Under some of these slabs were found human bones, and small pieces of painted glass. Judging from the foundations which may be traced, we conceive the priory and its offices, to have covered an extent of nearly five acres.* A brook of excellent water runs by the close in which the priory stood.

Kirkby Green.

The village of KIRKBY GREEN, is distant about eight miles north-eastward from Sleaford, and in 1821, contained 68 inhabitants. The church dedicated to Holy Cross, contains but little that is interesting. The living is a discharged rectory, valued at £11 7s 6d., and is in the patronage of the crown.

Timberland.

TIMBERLAND, is situated about eight miles north-eastward from Sleaford. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a discharged vicarage rated in the king's books at £12 2s. 11d. and endowed with £200 royal bounty. Here is also a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. In 1821 this parish, with the township of Thorpe Tinley, and the hamlet of Martin, contained 1133 inhabitants.

Second Division.

The SECOND DIVISION of Langoe wapentake, contains the villages of Blankney, Dunston, Metheringham, Nocton, Potter Hanworth, Scopwick and Washingborough.

Blankney.

BLANKNEY, situated at the distance of about nine miles and a half north from Sleaford, contained in 1821, a population amounting to 513 persons. The church, dedicated to St. Oswald, is a rectory, valued at £16 10s. 7d., and in the patronage of Charles Chaplin, Esq. At the Green Man Inn, on Lincoln Heath, three miles westward from the village, the Lincoln Club, consisting of the most distinguished gentlemen of the county, was established about 1741. The busts of the principal members, with their armorial ensigns, were placed in the club room, which was built by Chaplin, Esq., of Blankney. In this parish is Blankney Hall, the seat of Charles Chaplin, Esq.

Dunston.

The village of DUNSTON, is situated at the distance of about eight miles and a half south-east from Lincoln. In 1821, the population amounted to 423 persons. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £7 0s. 10d., and in the

* Creasey's History of Sleaford, p. 168.

BOOK V. patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. About two miles and a half westward from the village, is a lofty column, called Dunston Pillar. It stands in a square area, which is planted with trees, and enclosed by a wall. It is a plain quadrangular stone shaft of a pyramidical shape, towering to the height of ninety-two feet with a colossal figure of George the third, placed at the top. The lantern is surrounded by a ballustraded gallery, resting on a cornice. From the summit is an extensive prospect, including, with a great extent of surrounding country, the cathedral and city of Lincoln. The different faces of the pillar, bear each an appropriate inscription. On the north side, *To Lincoln V miles;* north side, *From the city CXX miles;* east side, *Dunston Pillar;* west side, *Columnam hanc utilitati publicæ D. D. D. F. Dashwood. M. DCC. LI.* The heath being then an extensive waste, and the roads intricate, it was of great utility; but since that period, the lands having been enclosed, the roads fenced, and mile stones erected, it only now remains as a monument of the benevolence and public spirit of the person who caused it to be raised.

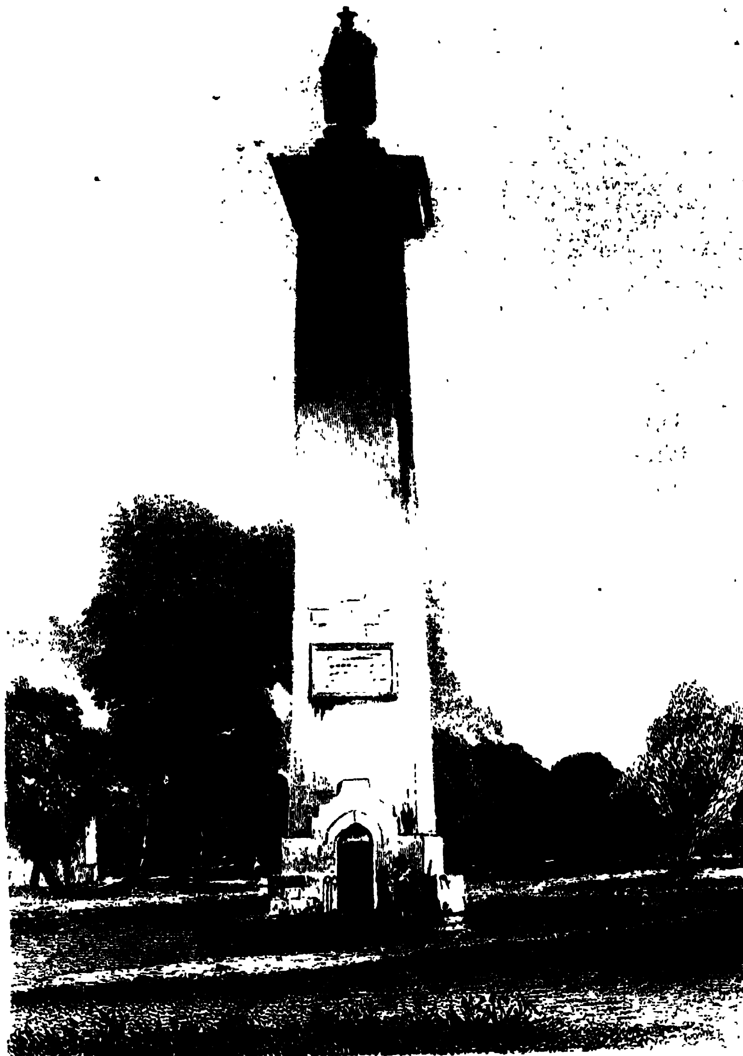
Hospital. Dunston Hospital, anciently founded for leprous persons, was situated on the heath by a valley, a little southward of the pillar. Even the marks of the foundation scarcely remain, the whole having been cleared, when the site was made arable;—it occupied about three acres in extent.

Metheringham. METHERINGHAM, is situated at the distance of about eight miles south-eastward from the city of Lincoln, and about ten miles northward from Sleaford. The church, dedicated to St. Wilfred is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £7 6 . 10d., and is in the patronage of the Marquis of Bristol. In this parish there is also a place of worship for the Wesleyan Methodists. According to the returns of 1821, the parish of Metheringham contained at that period 626 inhabitants.

Nocton. The village of NOCTON, is pleasantly situated, at the distance of about seven miles and a half south-eastward from Lincoln, and in 1821, contained 376 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a vicarage, rated at £7 17s. 11d., and is in the patronage of the Crown.

Nocton Park. NOCTON PARK, is the seat of the Right Honourable, the Earl of Ripon. It is recorded, that in the time of King Stephen, Robert De Areci, or D'Arcy, erected, in his *park* at Nocton, a priory for black canons of the Augustine order. At the time of the dissolution it had five monks, whose annual revenues amounted, according to Speed, to the sum of £57 19s. 2d. The site was granted by Henry VIII. to Charles Duke of Suffolk; and in the time of Elizabeth it was bestowed by the crown on Sir Henry Stanley, Lord Strange. By the Stanley family it was converted into a residence; but the greater part of the old house was afterwards taken down, and the present mansion rebuilt by Sir William Ellys, Bart., in the latter part of the seventeenth century. The house is a handsome building for that period consisting of a centre and two wings, the angles turretted, with cupolas at top; and in the centre rises an octangular cupola, or lantern. The grounds were planted and laid out agreeably to the formal prevailing taste of the times, but have been much altered and improved by the late and present noble proprietors. The prospects are numerous, varied and extensive; and near the mansion stands a chestnut tree, considered the finest of the kind in England.

Potter Hanworth. POTTER HANWORTH, stands at the distance of about six miles and a half south eastward from Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a rectory, rated at £13 16s. 8d., and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821, this parish contained 371 inhabitants.



DUNSTON PILLAR

Scopwick.

SCOPWICK, is situated about eight miles to the northward of Sleaford, and about eight miles and a half south-eastward from Lincoln. The church, dedicated to Holy Cross is a discharged vicarage, rated at £8, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. In 1821, the parish contained 232 inhabitants.

Washinborough.

WASHINGBOROUGH, is situated on the river Witham, at the distance of about two miles and a half south-eastward from Lincoln. The living is a rectory, rated at £26 13s. 4d., and is in the patronage of Sir William A. Ingleby. M. P. The church, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, is a large handsome structure, with a lofty tower at the western end. The parish is bounded on the north by the navigable river Witham.

At Washingborough is a school for children, with an endowment of about £20 per annum, arising from the bequest of Timothy Pike, and others in 1728. The free grammar school at Heighington, a township belonging to this parish, was founded in 1619 by Thomas Garratt, who endowed it with lands and houses of the present annual value of £140; he was in other respects a great benefactor to the poor. In 1701, Sir Thomas Clack left land, now producing £70 per annum, for apprenticing poor children.

In 1821, Washingborough, with the township of Heighington, contained 874 inhabitants.

Boothby Graffo Wapentake

The Wapentake of BOOTHBY GRAFFO, is bounded on the north by Lawress wapentake; on the east by Lincoln Liberty, and Langoe wapentake; on the south by Loveden wapentake; and on the west by Nottinghamshire. It is separated into High and Low Divisions.

Through this wapentake a Roman road passes from Lincoln to Brough, a village just without the bounds of the county, where Stukeley and Horseley endeavour to fix the ancient station of Crocolana.

High Division.

The HIGH DIVISION of the wapentake of Boothby Graffo, contains the villages of Boothby, Coleby, Harmston, Navenby, Skinnard, Swinethorpe, Welbourn, and Wellingore.

Boothby.

BOOTHBY, or BOOTHBY GRAFFO, is situated about eight miles southward from Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a rectory, valued at £11 12s. 3½d. In 1821, this parish contained 155 inhabitants.

Somerton Castle.

Near this village are the ruins of Somerton Castle. The original building was erected about the year 1305, by Anthony Bec, bishop of Durham, who presented it to king Edward the first, by whom it was afterwards granted to William de Beaumont. In this castle Sir Saier de Rochford, who proved himself a valiant soldier in the French wars, undertook, in the thirty third year of King Edward the third, to keep safely the king of France then a prisoner in England. For which service he was to be allowed *two shillings per diem*.* From the present remains we are justified in supposing that the whole must have been a noble and capacious building. An outer and inner moat inclosed a rectangular area of considerable extent. The dimensions of which are about two hundred, by two hundred and fifty-one feet.

At the angles of the area are the remains of four circular towers, which appear to have been formerly connected by intermediate buildings. The south east tower is nearly entire, and the upper part surrounded by a parapet, out of which rise three pinnacles; and in the centre an octangular spire shaped roof. The south western tower, in ruins, contains an octangular apartment, with eight niches; in one of which is the doorway. The north-west tower is

* Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. VI. p. 137.

BOOK V. nearly in the same state, and that on the south-west exhibits a similar construction, except that in every niche is a pointed window. In the remains of the north-east tower, is an apartment with a curious vaulted roof, supported by an umbilical pillar, from which spring twelve arches, forming in the wall as many niches; in each of which is a pointed arched window. This interesting ruin, with some adjoining buildings, is now occupied as a farm house and offices.

Coleby. The pleasant village of COLEBY is situated at the distance of about six miles and a half southward from Lincoln. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated at £6 12s. 1d., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the Provost and Fellows of Oriel College, Oxford. The church, dedicated to All Saints, has a tower with some fine specimens of Norman architecture, but the rest of the building is in the early English style, with later additions, particularly the upper portion of the tower, and spire. In 1821, the parish contained 322 inhabitants.

Coleby Hall. Coleby Hall, the seat of Charles Mainwaring, Esq., stands upon Cliff-row, a high ridge of land near the High-street, and old Roman road, now used as a summer road to Lincoln; it is an old house, but has received many modern additions, and is surrounded by flourishing plantations. The grounds are entered by an arch, and the gardens contain a Doric temple, dedicated to the memory of the great earl of Chatham; and another constructed on the model of the temple of Romulus and Remus at Rome, by Sir William Chambers, said to be his *chef d'ourre*.

Harmston. HARMSTON, is situated about six miles southward from Lincoln, and in 1821, contained 333 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £7 6s. 8d., and endowed with £300 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty. Harmston Hall, in the vicinity, is the seat of B. J. Thorold, Esq.

Morton. MORTON, nine miles south-west from Lincoln, consisting of only one house, is extra-parochial.

Navenby. The village of NAVENBY, formerly a market town, is situated at the distance of about nine miles southward from Lincoln. The living is a rectory, rated at £17 10s. 0d., and is in the patronage of the Master and Fellows of Christ Church College, Cambridge. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is partly in the early English, and partly in the decorated style of architecture. In this village is also a place of worship for the Wesleyan Methodists. The market, which was held on Wednesday, has fallen into disuse. Here are annual fairs on the 18th of August, for horses, and on the 17th of October, for sheep and swine. There is a trifling endowment for teaching nine poor children. In 1821, the parish contained 625 inhabitants.

Skinnard. SKINNARD, is distant about nine miles south-west from Lincoln, and one mile from Navenby. The living is a discharged rectory, rated at £5 13s. 11½d. The church is in ruins. In 1821, the parish contained only 14 inhabitants.

Swinethorpe. SWINETHORPE, is an extra-parochial liberty about nine miles south-westward from Lincoln, and on the borders of Nottinghamshire. It is said that coal may be obtained here, but the mines have not hitherto been worked. In 1821, the liberty contained 55 inhabitants.

Welbourn. The village of WELBOURN, is situated about nine miles and a half north-west from Slea-

ford, and about nine miles south-west from Lincoln. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £19 16s. 0½d. The church, dedicated to St. Chad, exhibits fine specimens of the early, decorated, and later styles of English architecture. The tower, which is of very early date, is surmounted by a richly crokctted spire, in the shape of a sugar loaf, supported by flying buttresses, springing from the angles of the tower. In 1821, this parish contained 489 inhabitants. CHAP. I.

Wellingore. WELLINGORE, is situated about ten miles southward from Lincoln, and nine miles north-westward from Sleaford. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, rated in the king's books at £11 10s. Here is also a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. In 1821, this parish contained 727 inhabitants. In the vicinity is Wellingore Hall, the seat of Colonel Neville.

Low Division. The LOW DIVISION of Boothby Graffo Wapentake, contains the villages of Auborn, Bassingham, Boultham, Carlton le Moorlands, Doddington, Eagle, North Hyckham, South Hyckham, Norton Disney, North Scarle, Skellingthorpe, Stapleford, Swinderby, Thorpe on the Hill, and Thurlby.

Auborn. The village of AUBORN, is situated on the banks of the river Witham, at the distance of about seven miles south-westward from Lincoln. The church dedicated to St. Peter, is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £7 13s. 10d. Haddington is a township of this parish, but is partly situated in that of South Hyckham. In 1821, this parish, with Haddington, contained 39 houses and 330 inhabitants.

Bassingham. BASSINGHAM, on the river Witham, is situated about nine miles to the south-westward of Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a rectory, rated at £26 16s. 3d., and is in the patronage of the President and Fellows of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 123 houses, and 613 inhabitants.

Boultham. BOULTHAM is distant about two miles and a half south-westward from Lincoln, and being situated on a flat, bears some resemblance to a Dutch village, surrounded on all sides by drainage cuts, delphs, and water courses. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated at £7 15s. 2d., and endowed with £400 royal bounty. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. In 1821, this parish contained 12 houses, and 74 inhabitants.

Carleton le Moorlands. The village of CARLETON LE MOORLANDS, is situated about eleven miles south-west of Lincoln, and in 1821, contained 72 houses, and 294 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a discharged vicarage rated at £7 0s. 10d., and is in the patronage of Lord Middleton. The parish is bounded on the east by the river Brant, and on the west by the Witham.

Doddington. DODDINGTON, is situated at the distance of about six miles and a half south-westward from Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £7 9s. 6d. In 1821, this parish with its township of Whisby, contained 20 houses, and 159 inhabitants.

Doddington Hall. Doddington Hall, formerly the residence of the Delaval family, is now the seat of Colonel Jervis. It is a handsome structure of the Elizabethan age, and possesses many good pictures by eminent artists. The grand room is of superb dimensions, floored with English oak, and approached by a very magnificent staircase.*

* For a pedigree of the Delaval family of this place, see Beauties of England and Wales. Vol. xii. p. 91.

BOOK V.

Eagle. The village of EAGLE is distant about eight miles south-westward from Lincoln. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £3 5s. 10d. In 1821, this parish contained 56 houses, and 308 inhabitants.

A commandery of Knights Templars was established here, by grant of the manor from King Stephen; it afterwards came to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, and was valued at the dissolution at £124 2s. per annum, now worth £2898 16s 8d. It was granted in 1541 to Thomas Earl of Rutland, and Robert Tyrwhitt. The religious house called Eagle Wood House, is extra-parochial; it stood on a rising ground, where are now two farm houses; large banks and ditches are about the site. Eagle Hall is a hamlet of this parish.

North Hyckham. NORTH HYCKHAM, on the river Witham, is about five miles to the south-westward of Lincoln. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, rated at £19 16s. 3d. and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821, this parish contained 51 houses, and 296 inhabitants.

South Hyckham. SOUTH HYCKHAM, on the river Witham, is distant about one mile south-westward from the above. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a curacy in the presentation of the bishop of Lincoln. In 1821 this parish contained 17 houses, and 102 inhabitants.

Norton Disney. The village of NORTON DISNEY, is situated at the distance of about eleven miles south-westward from Lincoln, and about six miles north-eastward from Newark in Nottinghamshire. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £6 6s. 10d In the chancel is an ancient monument with the effigy of a woman, and a cross and four shields, round which is this inscription:

"Ici gist Ioan que fust la femme moun Gillam Disni, et file moun Sire Nicolas de Lanefort Deu eite merci de sa alme. Amen.

In the church is also a brass plate, put up about the middle of the reign of Elizabeth, commemorating William Disney, Esq. sheriff of London, 1532; and Richard Disney, Esq. his eldest son and heir, burgess for Grantham 1554, and sheriff of Lincolnshire, 1557 and 1566; with their wives and issue. At the back is a long inscription, in the German or Low Dutch language, recording the foundation of a chantry on the continent.*

In 1821, this parish contained 36 houses, and 214 inhabitants.

North Scarle. NORTH SCARLE, is situated on the borders of Nottinghamshire, at the distance of about ten miles south-west from Lincoln. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a discharged rectory, rated at £4 17s. 3½d., and is in the patronage of Lord Egremont. There is also in this village a place of worship for the Wesleyan Methodists. The river Trent forms a boundary of this parish on the west. According to the returns of 1821, the village of North Scarle contained 95 houses, and 434 inhabitants.

Skellingthorpe. The village of SKELLINGTHORPE, on the borders, of Nottinghamshire, is distant about seven miles westward from Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St, Lawrence is a discharged vicarage rated at £6 18s. 9d. endowed with 200 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant. Here is also a place of worship belonging to the Wesleyan Methodists. In 1821, this parish contained 70 houses, and 370 inhabitants.

Skellingthorpe is chiefly the property of Christ Church School, in London. There are in

* Gough's Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. Pt. 1. Intro. xxii.

this parish some excellent farm houses and buildings, as well as extensive plantations. CHAP. I.

STAPLEFORD is situated at the distance of about six miles north-eastward from Newark, and about twelve miles south-westward from Lincoln. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a discharged vicarage, annexed to that of Carleton le Moorlands, rated at £5 3s. 4d., and endowed with £600 royal bounty. In 1821, the parish contained 35 houses, and 213 inhabitants. Stapleford.

The village of SWINDERBY is distant about eight miles to the south-west of Lincoln. The church, dedicated to All Saints is a vicarage rated at £3 19s. 9½d. In this village the Wesleyan Methodists have a place of worship. In 1732, Mr. Daniel Disney bequeathed a rent charge of £3 for teaching eight children, and in 1770, Mrs. Elizabeth Upsall, left another of £4 for the education of six. Swinderby

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 69 houses, and 365 inhabitants.

THORPE ON THE HILL is situated about six miles south-westward from Lincoln, and contained in 1821, 48 houses, and 235 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, rated at £9 10s., and is in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln. Here is also a chapel belonging to the Wesleyan Methodists. Thorpe on the Hill.

THURLBY, on the river Witham, is distant about nine miles south-westward from Lincoln. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, and in the patronage of the Prebendary of Carleton cum Thurlby, in the cathedral church of Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. German, is principally in the later style of English architecture. This parish lies between the rivers Trent and Witham, the latter of which is celebrated for its eels and pike. Thurlby.

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 17 houses, and 102 inhabitants.

The WAPENTAKE of LOVEDEN is bounded on the north by Boothby Graffo wapentake; on the east by Flaxwell Wapentake; on the south by Winnibriggs and Threo wapentake, and Grantham Soke; and on the west by Nottinghamshire. Loveden Wapentake.

Loveden wapentake contains the villages of Ancaster, Beckingham, Long Bennington, Brant Broughton, Carlton Scroop, Claythorpe, Claypole, Dry Doddington, Fenton, Foston, Fulbeck, Hough on the Hill, Hougham, Leadenham, Marston, Normanton, Stragglesthorpe, Stubton, Sutton, and Westborough.

ANCASTER, on the river Witham, is situated at the distance of about seven miles north-eastward from Grantham, on the great Roman road, called Ermine street, which is here denominated High Dyke. Here has evidently been a Roman Station, and though Dr. Stukeley is positive as to the Causennæ of the Itinerary being at Great Ponton, yet the author of the Britannia Romana, from a comparison of the situation and circumstances of the two places, with much more probability fixes it here. The situation is low, and a brook flows at the north end of the village. The foss and rampart, according to Horsley, might easily be traced out.* "What was its Roman name I know not; but it has been a very strong city, entrenched and walled about, as may be seen very plainly, for the most part, and perceived by those that are the least verst in these searches; the bowling-green behind the Red Lion Inn is made in the ditch. When they were levelling it they came to the old foundation. Ancaster.

* Britannia Romana, p. 433.

At this end of the town, where a dove-cot stands, is Castle Close, full of foundations appearing every where above ground; the ditch and rampire encompasses it. Here are prodigious quantities of Roman coins found. Many people in the town have traded in the sale of them these thirty years."* The coins are of various emperors. One a denarius of Otho, found here, was highly esteemed. Harrison† observes, that mosaic pavements have been discovered at Ancaster. All which circumstances make it probable that this was the Causennæ of Antonine.

It is, however, proper to observe, that the numbers, as they stand in the Itinerary, do not support this conjecture; neither will they agree with Great Ponton. However, "as it is impossible that Ancaster should be the place, if the numbers be just, so it is impossible any other place between Ancaster and great Ponton should be it; for between these two places is nothing but bare heath, not a drop of water, not a village nearer than half a mile, no mark of a station, no coins found; but the plain, perfect, uninterrupted high ridge all the way."‡ Causennæ, in the fifth Iter, is placed between Durobrivis and Lindum, thirty miles from the former, and twenty-six from the latter. This creates a difficulty respecting the station, which Horsley thought best removed by supposing that a transposition had occurred of the numeral VI, or that XXX, and XXVI, were, through mistake, set instead of XXXVI. and XX. over against Causennis and Lindo. Admitting this supposition, the general distance is preserved, and the particular distances exactly answer by placing Causennæ at Ancaster.

Church.

The living is a vicarage, rated at £6 13s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the crown. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, bears evident traces of high antiquity. A slender spire, with a nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel, form the whole of the building. The nave is supported by five pillars, two towards the south, fluted or clustered, having pointed arches, and three towards the north, with four circular or Saxon arches. The monuments in this church, though numerous, are of too recent a date to excite much interest.

Robert Bertie, marquis of Lindsey, was created Duke of Ancaster and Kesteven, 29th June, 1715; he was hereditary Lord Great Chamberlain of England.

According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained 86 houses, and 439 inhabitants.

The village of BECKINGHAM is situated on the borders of Nottinghamshire, at the distance of about five miles eastward from Newark. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £41 6s. 8d. In 1821 this parish contained 98 houses, and 430 inhabitants.

Bennington Long

LONG BENNINGTON, on the borders of Nottinghamshire, is distant about eight miles northwest from Grantham. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a vicarage, valued at £20 1s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the King, as duke of Lancaster.

The church, and four carucates of land in Long Bennington, being given by Ralph de

* Stukeley's Itin. Curios. p. 80.

† Description of Britain, Vol. II. p. 17.

‡ Stukeley's letter to Horsley.

Filgeriis, or Fulgeriis, to the abbey of Sevigny, in Normandy, before A. D. 1175, here was founded an alien priory of Cistertian monks, subordinate to that foreign monastery. During the wars with France, it was seized into the king's hands, and given by Richard II. to the Carthusians of St. Ann's, near Coventry. Its revenues were then valued at £50 per annum. But after the suppression of the order, it was given in the ninth year of Henry V., to the priory of Mountgrace; and as parcel of the possessions of the last mentioned monastery, this manor of Long Bennington, was granted to the dean and chapter of Westminster, in the thirty fourth year of King Henry VIII.*

In 1821, this parish contained 150 houses, and 881 inhabitants.

Brant Broughton.

BRANT BROUGHTON, or BRENT BROUGHTON, on a branch of the Witham, is situated at the distance of about seven miles eastward from Newark, in Nottinghamshire. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is a rectory, rated at £35 13s. 4d., and is in the patronage of Sir Richard Sutton, Bart. The edifice consists of a nave, with a clerestory, north and south aisles, and a chancel, with a tower at the west end, surmounted by a beautiful slender spire, about 170 feet in height. The architecture of the whole appears to be about the period of the reign of Edward III. It contains an ancient monument, inscribed to James de Aubeney. Dr. Warburton, bishop of Gloucester was rector of this parish, and wrote his "Divine Legation" here. In 1821, this parish contained 126 houses, and 595 inhabitants.

Carlton Scroop.

The village of CARLTON SCROOP is distant about six miles north-eastward from Grantham The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a rectory, rated at £13 1s. 5d. The lower part of the tower of this church is of Anglo Norman architecture, and there is a large plain bold arch of that style opening into the nave. The font is curious from the ingenuity displayed in the form, which is square at the base, with an octagonal bowl. The east window of the chancel is a good specimen of the architecture of the reign of Edward III., and has in its upper division some fine painted glass. In 1821, the parish contained 21 houses, and 148 inhabitants.

Caythorpe.

CAYTHORPE is distant about nine miles northward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Vincent, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £20 11s. 10d. In 1821, this parish including the hamlet of Freiston, contained 111 houses, and 567 inhabitants.

Claypole.

CLAYPOLE, on the river Witham, upon the borders of Nottinghamshire, is distant about ten miles north-westward from Grantham, and about five miles south-eastward from Newark. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a rectory, in two medieties, valued respectively at £16 8s. 4d., and £15 15s. 0s. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 114 houses, and 605 inhabitants.

Dry Doddington.

The village of DRY DODDINGTON is pleasantly situated on an eminence nine miles north-westward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. James, is a perpetual curacy. In 1821, the parish contained 38 houses, and 227 inhabitants.

Fenton.

FENTON is situated on the border of Nottinghamshire, at the distance of about eleven miles north from Grantham. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a perpetual curacy. According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained 22 houses, and 99 inhabitants.

Foston.

The village of FOSTON is situated at the distance of about six miles north-west from Gran-

* Notitia Monastica.

tham, on the turnpike road between that place and Newark. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a curacy. In 1821, this parish contained 80 houses, and 426 inhabitants.

Fulbeck. FULBECK is situated at the distance of about ten miles north-eastward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £20 15s. 7d. Hence to Leadenham is a very rich prospect over the vale of Trent, to the distant lands that bound it. In 1821, the parish contained 99 houses, and 555 inhabitants.

Hough on the Hill. HOUGH ON THE HILL, is distant about eight miles northward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £15 6s. 8d. In the reign of Henry II., [illegible] year 116[illegible], there was founded a priory of Austin canons, subordinate to the abbey of [illegible], de voto, at Cherburgh, in Normandy, which was seized by Richard II., and granted, [illegible] to [illegible] priory of Spittle on the street, in this county, and afterwards to the Carthusians [illegible] Anne's, near Coventry. It was restored to Cherburgh in 1399, but with the other [illegible] priories, was suppressed in the reign of Henry V., and granted to the priory of Mou[illegible], in Yorkshire. In 1541, the estate was granted to John Lord Russell. According to the population returns of 1821, this parish, including the hamlets of Brandon and Gelston, contained [illegible] houses, and 533 inhabitants.

Hougham. The village of HOUGHAM is situated at the distance of about seven miles north from Grantham. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, valued at £33 8s. 6d., and is in the patronage of the Earl of Cardigan. In 1821, the parish contained 60 houses, and 290 inhabitants.

Leadenham. LEADENHAM, or LONG LEADENHAM as it is sometimes called, is situated about nine miles north-westward from Sleaford. The church, dedicated to St. Swithin, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £23 12s. 8d. The petty sessions are held here. Adjacent to the village is the elegant mansion of Colonel Reeve. In Harlaxton Lane is a tumulus, supposed to be of British workmanship. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 116 houses, and 571 inhabitants.

Marston. The village of MARSTON is situated, about six miles northward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a perpetual curacy. In 1821, the parish contained 72 houses, and 393 inhabitants.

Normanton. NORMANTON, eight miles north-east from Grantham, contained in 1821, 40 houses, and 189 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £10 2s. 6d. In the vicinity are two British tumuli.

Stragglesthorpe. The village of STRAGGLESTHORPE is situated on a branch of the Witham, at the distance of about eleven miles northward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a perpetual curacy. In 1821, the parish contained 18 houses, and 100 inhabitants.

Stubton. STUBTON is situated at the distance of about nine miles north-westward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is a rectory, rated at £12 3s. 9d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. The edifice was rebuilt about the year 1800. Stubton Hall is the seat of Sir Robert Heron, M. P. for the city of Peterborough. In 1821, the parish contained 31 houses, and 174 inhabitants.

Westborough. WESTBOROUGH is situated on the river Witham, at the distance of about eight miles north-west from Grantham. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, in medieties, one rated at £20, the other at £6 13s. 4d. In 1821, the parish contained 45 houses, and 227 inhabitants.



CHAPTER II.

WAPENTAKES OF ASWARDHURN, AVELAND, WINNIBRIGGS AND THREO, AND BELTISLOE.

The WAPENTAKE OF ASWARDHURN is bounded on the north by Flaxwell and Langoe wapentakes; on the east by Kirton wapentake; on the south by Aveland wapentake; and on the west by Winnibriggs and Threo wapentake. Wapentake of Aswardhurn.

This wapentake contains the parishes of Asgarby, Aswarby, Aunsby, Burton Pedwardine, Culverthorpe, Evedon, Ewerby, Great Hale, Little Hale, Heckington, Helpringham, Howell, Ingoldsby, Kirkby, Lathorpe, Quarrington, Scredington, Silk Willoughby, Old Sleaford, South Kyme, and Swarby.

The village of ASGARBY is situated at the distance of about three miles eastward from Sleaford. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £16 14s. 4d. In 1821, the parish contained 12 houses, and 55 inhabitants. Asgarby.

The village of ASWARBY is situated on the turnpike road, leading from Sleaford to Folkingham, at about an equal distance from each town. The church, dedicated to St. Denis, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £12 4s. 7d., and is in the patronage of Sir Thomas Whichcote, Bart. The edifice consists of a lofty nave, a north aisle, and a chancel, with a fine tower and spire at the west end. The font is very ancient and curious in its form, being circular, and supported on four circular pillars, entwined with leaves and tendrils. The chancel is separated from the nave by a beautiful fret-work screen. The arch of the south door is exceedingly beautiful, being enriched with a matchless indented, or zig-zag bordering. Aswarby.

Aswarby Hall is the seat of Sir Thomas Whichcote, Bart. The park is spacious and finely diversified. Sir Jeremy Whichcote, solicitor general to the Elector Palatine, was created baronet by king Charles II., at Brussels, on the 2nd of April 1660.

In 1821, this parish contained 20 houses, and 116 inhabitants.

AUNSBY is situated about six miles north-westward from Folkingham. The church, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £6 0s. 7d. In 1821, this parish contained 19 houses, and 105 inhabitants. Aunsby.

BURTON PEDWARDINE, or, as it was formerly called Burton Creon or Craon, is a small village about four miles south-east from Sleaford. The manor formed part of the large estates of Alan de Creon or Craon, who was of the noble family of Anjou, and the most illustrious in France of those who came into England with William the Conqueror. Of this family Stukeley has given a genealogy, commencing with Andrew de Craon, who lived about A. D. 940. The estate by marriage came to Roger de Pedwardine the second, who rebuilt the Burton Pedwardine.

BOOK V. church, and St. Mary's chapel on the north side; but the south aisle, and St. Nicholas chapel were built at the expence of the parish.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a vicarage, rated at £7 12s. 6d. The church which formerly stood on the site of the present one, was a handsome building, in the form of a cross, having its tower in the centre; and consisted of a nave, chancel, and two chapels, one on the north dedicated to St. Mary, and the other on the south to St. Nicholas. In the year 1802, in attempting to repair the tower, the south-west angle of it gave way, and falling upon the church, damaged it so much that it was found necessary to rebuild the structure. In 1821, this parish contained 21 houses, and 124 inhabitants.

Culverthorpe. The village of CULVERTHORPE is situated at the distance of about four miles and a half south-west from Sleaford, in Haydon parish. The chapel is dedicated to St. Bartholomew. In the vicinity is the handsome seat of Henry Handley, Esq., one of the members for the southern division of this county.

Evedon. EVEDON is a very small village, situated about two miles east of Sleaford, a little to the south of the Sleaford navigation. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £9 8s. 1d. The structure bears evident marks of antiquity, but in the year 1809 it was considerably reduced, by taking down the north aisle; it now consists of a low tower, nave, and chancel. According to the returns of 1821, the parish at that period contained 13 houses, and 89 inhabitants.

Ewerby. EWERBY is a small village, formerly a market town, situated about four miles eastward from Sleaford. The living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £6 10s. 10d. The church, which is dedicated to St. Andrew, is a handsome structure, consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, chancel, and south porch, with a lofty tower, surmounted by a beautiful spire; the nave rests on four pointed arches on the north, and three on the south, having fluted pillars. Many of the old oak stalls remain, erected according to a carving upon one of them, in the year 1610. The partition screen of the chancel is beautifully ornamented with roses and finials in fret-work.

Great Hale. The village of GREAT HALE is distant about seven miles north-eastward from Folkingham. The living is a vicarage rated at £8 6s., and is in the patronage of the crown. The church, dedicated to St John, consists of a tower, nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel. The tower is Norman, but the exterior of the north aisle of this church, together with the south porch, are good specimens of the architecture of the reign of Richard I. In the north aisle is a slab of greenish marble, once containing a brass of bust, cross-croslet, &c. Against the wall of the north aisle, is a monument of two compartments, each of which contains two small figures kneeling at a desk, the whole surrounded by the arms of the family. In a recess under the singing gallery is a beautiful font, ornamented with a handsome cover of gothic carved work. Above is this inscription: "This church was repaired, the windows newly glazed, the aisles repaired, and various other improvements made in the years 1825-1826, and 1827."

Near the church is a charity school, a plain but convenient building with this inscription on the front: "Built by subscriptions on ground given by the most noble marquis of Bristol." It has separate entrances for the boys and girls, situated at opposite extremities of the building.

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained at that period 119 houses, and 577 inhabitants.

Little Hale

LITTLE HALE, is situated about half a mile from the above, and included in the population of the same.

Heckington

HECKINGTON, is advantageously situated on a commanding eminence, and lying in the direct turnpike road between Sleaford and Boston, distant five miles from the former, and thirteen from the latter town.

The living is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at £12 16s. 3d. The church dedicated to St. Andrew, is a large and magnificent edifice, built about the reign of king Edward III. The structure consists of a western tower and spire, a nave and aisles, spacious transepts, and a large chancel, with a vestry attached to the north side. The nave has a well proportioned clerestory. In the interior, the first object worthy of notice is the font, a hexagon, with very rich niches. The piers and arches in the nave are plain, but with very good mouldings; one window on the south side is filled with ancient stained glass. In the chancel, the stalls exhibit a specimen of pure decorated work that can scarcely be surpassed. Here is also a sepulchre, of which there are not many specimens now remaining, consisting of a series of richly ornamented niches, the largest of which represents the tomb, having angels standing beside it; the side niches have the Maries and other appropriate figures, and in the lower niches are the Roman soldiers reposing; these niches have rich canopies, and are separated by buttresses and rich finials, having all the spaces covered by very rich foliage. In the chancel are very highly enriched stalls, and a piscina, together with the tomb of an ecclesiastic of exceedingly fine character.

In a mansion formerly standing south of the village lived lord Cobham, whose widow was the last occupier there. Winkhill manor house, the residence of — Christopher Esq., is a modern edifice, the old house having been destroyed in the year 1780.

There are no chartered fairs held in this village, but ever since 1795, two fairs for the sale of sheep and oxen, have been held, by a sort of common consent, in each year, one on the Friday previous to Lincoln April fair, and the other on the Friday before Old Michaelmas Day. In 1821, this parish contained 316 houses, and 1438 inhabitants.

Helpringham.

HELPRINGHAM is a populous and retired village, situated about seven miles south-eastward of Sleaford, and thirteen eastward of Boston. The living is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £8 3s. 4d.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a fine specimen of architecture of about the time of Edward III. It is mostly of the decorative style, much resembling Heckington in some parts, and consists of a lofty tower and spire, a nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a porch on the south side. The nave is separated from each aisle by four gothic arches, resting on three fine clustered pillars. The font is circular, having a cluster of small columns on the sides, with pillars at the four compartments, but it is now greatly mutilated. A wooden screen of gothic workmanship separates the nave and chancel; in the south wall of the latter are three plain niches or stalls, and a piscina under a Saxon arch with round pillars. The floor of the church is nearly covered with monumental inscriptions, but as they are mostly modern, we must omit them.

A few years since, on leveling a part of one of the banks of the Carr Dyke, which runs through this parish from north to south, two human skeletons were discovered, and in January 1834, some labourers digging graves adjoining the village, discovered at about

BOOK V. two feet from the surface, three skeletons of full grown human subjects in a perfect state, lying in various positions near each other. No satisfactory account can be given why the remains should be in such a situation: on old mansion formerly stood near the spot and was pulled down about 40 years ago.

In 1821, this parish contained 145 houses, and 693 inhabitants.

Howell. HOWELL is a small secluded village, situated about one mile northward from Heckington, and about five miles eastward from Sleaford. The living is a rectory, rated at £13 10s. The church, dedicated to St. Oswald, is an humble structure, consisting of a nave, north aisle, and chapel, chancel, south porch, and double arched gable at the west end, formerly containing two small bells, one of which only now remains. The arch within the porch is Norman. The north door is still open, and the aisle has a beautiful lancet shaped window at the east end. In various parts of the church are scattered a profusion of monuments, some of which are very ancient, and well deserving the attention of the curious. The remains of a stone cross, having a shaft about six feet high, stands on the south side of the church, near the porch. Gervaise Holles says it was thus inscribed, "*Pray for the soul of John Spencer, Rector of this church, and I. H. C.*

In 1821, this parish contained 12 houses, and 67 inhabitants.

Ingoldsby. The village of INGOLDSBY is situated at the distance of about five miles and a half west from Falkingham. The church, dedicated to St Andrew, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £21 6. 10d., and is in the patronage of Christ Church College, Cambridge. Near the village is a circular encampment, which comprehends an area of about five hundred feet in diameter, and also several tumuli, called the Round Hills. In 1821, this parish contained 58 houses, and 360 inhabitants.

Kirkby Laythorpe. The little village of KIRKBY LAYTHORPE is situated about two miles south-eastward of Sleaford, on the turnpike road leading to Boston. The living is a rectory, one mediety of which is valued at £5 6s. 3d., and the other mediety valued at £4 6s. 3d. Of the two churches, formerly contained in this parish, one only remains The site of the north church, dedicated to St. Peter, may be very readily traced in a field adjoining the north-west of the parsonage house, as well as the foundations of several houses.

The remaining church, dedicated to St. Denis, consists of a low embattled tower, ornamented with pinnacles, a nave, north aisle, and chancel, with an ancient wooden porch on the south. The tower appears to be a much more modern erection, than the body of the church. The entrance by the porch is through a fine Norman arch, with circular pillars, and the aisle is divided from the nave by three round pillars, supporting Norman arches.

In a farm house in the hamlet of Laythorpe, built up in the kitchen wall, is a handsome octagonal font probably the one which formerly belonged to the desecrated church of St. Peter. It projects from the wall about two thirds of its whole size, having all the interior open, to serve the purpose of a common sink. It is, however, but fair to observe that the present occupier of the house has of late years preserved it with much care.

In 1821, this parish contained 33 houses, and 166 inhabitants.

South Kyme. SOUTH KYME, situated about eight miles south-east of Sleaford, is a hamlet of North Kyme, in the wapentake of Langoe, but being so closely connected we will describe them both under one head. It appears that from a very early period, the manor of Kyme belonged to a family

of that name, from which family it passed in marriage to Gilbert de Umfraville, earl of Angus, and Lucy de Kyme, which Gilbert de Umfraville died in the tenth year of Henry V. 1421. To him succeeded his only son, Robert de Umfraville, who dying without issue, the estate passed to his cousin, Elizabeth Burdon, who conveyed it in marriage to Henry Talboys, from whom it descended through several generations to Gilbert Talboys, who, in 1529, was made Baron of Talboys of Kyme, in the County of Lincoln. The wife of this Gilbert, Lord Talboys, was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Blount, by whom he had issue George and Robert, who died without issue, and a daughter, Elizabeth, who married first, Thomas Wimbust, Esq.; and secondly, Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick, but had no issue by either. On the death, therefore, of the above Gilbert Talboys, in 1530, this manor came to Sir Edward Dymoke, of Scrivelsby, in the county of Lincoln. The Dymoke's appear to have resided here till about the year 1700, and the estate was sold about the year 1730, to the duke of Newcastle, at that time prime minister. It was afterwards sold to Abraham Hume, Esq. about the year 1748, in whose family it still remains.

Tower. Of "the goodly house and parke," mentioned by Leland, there is now scarcely any vestage, except a fine stone quadrangular tower, which seems to have formed the northern part of the ancient castle. The entrance leads into an apartment, vaulted and groined, having in the centre of the roof, the arms of Umfraville. This room, which is lighted only by narrow loop-holes, appears to have been intended as a place of confinement or security. Ascending a staircaise we reach a chamber, which seems to have formerly communicated with the body of the castle. This is called the Chequer Chamber, from the circumstance of the floor being covered with a kind of pebble, called *chequer*. Above this were two other chambers, the roof and floors of which have entirely disappeared. At one angle of the tower, and over the staircase, is an elevated position, ascended by a few steps from the roof, probably used as a watch tower, or signal post, from whence is a very extensive prospect over the surrounding country.

The old Hall or Castle, which was pulled down between the years 1720 and 1725, stood on the south of the tower to which it was attached, and seems to have been a large and handsome building. A great part of the moat is still full of water, and its course may be traced quite round.

Priory. Phillip de Kyme built here, in the time of king Henry II., a priory for Black Canons, of the order of St. Augustine, in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. At the dissolution it it was valued at £138 4s. 9d., per annum, now worth £2796 6s. 8d. The site was granted in 1541 to Thomas, earl of Rutland, and Thomas Tyrwhitt. All that now remains of the priory, is the south front of the present church or chapel. Behind the chapel are evident marks of extensive buildings, and the remains of a wall and moat. The field is still called the Abbey Yard.

Church. The church or chapel, being a very large and inconvenient edifice, was in the year 1805 partly taken down, and the present structure erected; which consists of only one aisle, with a porch on the south side. The interior is neatly fitted up, but only half the font, which was octagonal, remains; it is placed against the west wall, has a plain round shaft, and is adorned with blank shields. The exterior architecture of this edifice is quite plain, except on the south side, which, as we have before said, is part of the old priory, and contains some handsome gothic windows, and a richly ornamented niche.

BOOK V. In laying the foundation of the north wall, at the time the building was contracted, the vault belonging to Gilbert, lord Talboys, was met with, in which were found four leaden coffins, one containing the remains of a full grown person, the others children. These latter were, in all probability, the offspring of Lord Talboys, whose remains, doubtless, occupied the large coffin.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a perpetual curacy, in the presentation of the proprietor, Sir Abraham Hume, Bart. In 1821, this parish contained 88 houses, and 516 inhabitants.

In North Kyme was a Roman encampment, the site of which is still clearly traceable, being situated in the direct line of the Roman road leading from Sleaford through the parish of Ewerby, where it is well discernible to Horncastle. The great Roman Canal, called the Carr Dyke, between the high lands and the fens, also passes through this parish.

Quarrington. QUARRINGTON is a small village, situated about one mile south-west of Old Sleaford, to which it is supposed to have been the mother parish. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £7 2s. 3d. The church, dedicated to St. Botolph, is a small but neat structure, partly of the early English, and partly of the decorated style of architecture; and consists of a nave, with a very narrow aisle on the north side, having two plain round pillars, supporting Gothic arches between the nave and aisle, and a very slender tower and spire at the west end. The chancel, which was greatly delapidated for a long time, was taken down a few years since, and rebuilt.

In the year 1821, this parish contained 23 houses, and 132 inhabitants.

Scredington. The village of SCREDINGTON is distant about three miles and a half south from Sleaford. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a vicarage, rated at £6 15s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln. In 1821, the parish contained 56 houses, and 256 inhabitants.

Silk Willoughby. The village of SILK WILLOUGHBY is distant about two miles south from Sleaford, on the turnpike road leading thence to London. The living is a rectory, valued at £14 8s. The church, dedicated to St. Dionysius, is a fine building in the decorated style, consisting of a tower and spire, a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel, and a south porch, the arched doorway of which is ornamented with a double row of rosettes, and surmounted by a neat niche. Four pillars, supporting pointed arches, separate the nave from the side aisles. The font is curiously enriched with interlaced semicircular arches.

A large and ancient house is conjectured to have been once the residence of the Armyn family. The Everinghams are also said to have had a mansion in this village, the site of which is covered with a barn and other farm offices; it is a commanding situation and surrounded by a moat, which encloses about two acres of fine rich land.

A curious specimen of ancient sculpture, representing the tools used by smiths, and implements of agriculture made by them, is seen over a handsome arched doorway, now walled up, which forms part of the village inn. Tradition says that it once formed part of a hall used by a company of smiths, but Mr. Creasey is inclined to believe it "to be nothing more than the entrance to the shoeing shed of some blacksmith's shop, whose owner had the good taste to erect that arch, which has puzzled many wondering admirers of antiquity."*

* Creasey's Sleaford. p. 361.

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained at that period 37 houses, and 197 inhabitants.

Old Sleaford.

Old Sleaford is situated on the Roman road, called Hermen street, about one mile to the south of New Sleaford. It is uncertain whether this living was ever legally united to the rectory of Quarrington, to which church Old Sleaford now pays rates, or at what period the church was destroyed or dilapidated. It is but reasonable, however, to conclude that this church was destroyed not long after the attainder of Lord Hussey, in 1538, but if not then; it seems certain that it was not in existence in the early part of the 17th century. The edifice is supposed to have stood in a field adjoining the east side of the Old Place. In the year 1822, on deepening a ditch in the vicinity, several human graves were discovered parallel with each other, and lying due east and west.

John, eldest son of Sir William Hussey, chief justice of the king's bench, in the reign of Henry the seventh, was created lord Hussey, of Sleaford, by Henry the eighth, in 1529. He built here a noble house, but engaging in the common insurrection, when the feuds and differences about religion first broke out in the kingdom, he was attainted of treason, when his manor of Sleaford, and estates adjacent were confiscated, and he himself beheaded at Lincoln, in 1538. The attainder was afterwards reversed in parliament, in the reign of Elizabeth, but neither the estate nor the honour were granted to his heirs. Of this ancient baronial residence, nothing now remains but the "outer gate and postern," taken notice of by Gough. A farm house, built out of the ruins, remained on part of the site till the year 1822, when it was almost wholly taken down, and the present building erected. In taking down the chimneys, several curiously carved stones were met with, and a quantity of stained glass was found at the same time, in digging the foundations for some additional buildings.

In 1821, this place contained 45 houses, and 215 inhabitants.

Swarby.

The village of Swarby is situated about four miles south from Sleaford. The church, dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints, is a vicarage, rated at £6. In 1821, this parish contained 27 houses, and 143 inhabitants.

Aveland Wapentake.

The Wapentake of Aveland is bounded on the north by Aswardhurn wapentake; on the east by Elloe and Kirton wapentake; on the south by Ness wapentake; and on the west by Beltisloe, and a small part of Winnibrigg and Threo wapentake.

This wapentake contains the market towns of Bourn, and Folkingham; and the villages of Aslackby, Billingborough, Dembleby, Dowsby, Dunsby, Haceby, Hacconby, Horbling, Kirkby Underwood, Laughton, Morton, Newton, Osbournby, Pickworth, Rippingale, Scott Willoughby, Sempringham, Spanby, Swayton, Threckingham, and Walcot.

Bourn.

The market town of Bourn is situated in a flat country adjoining the fens, and at the distance of eight miles north-west of Stamford, thirty-five miles south of Lincoln, and ninety-seven miles north-west from London; it stands near the Bourn Well Head, a spring, remarkable for its purity and quantity, which is the source of the river running through the town, and discharging a sufficient stream of water to supply three miles near its head.

Early notices.

The earliest notice on record respecting this place, is in the time of the Saxons, when Camden states, on the authority of Leland, that it was notable for the inauguration of Edmund, King of the East Angles, A. D. 838. This, however, is proved to be an error, by Mr. Gough, who says, that the Saxon monarch was crowned at a place called Buers, in

BOOK V. Suffolk. Ingulphus, after noticing several benefactions to the abbey of Croyland, says, "Leofric, lord of the castle of Brunn, a famous noble, and famous soldier, kinsman to the great Count Radin, who married king Edward's sister, Goda, gave many possessions to this abbey; and on many occasions assisted the monks with his counsel and favour."* This Leofric had a son, Werward, possessed of the castle and estates of Burn or Brunn, who dying, without issue, they were presented by William Rufus, to Walter Fitz Gilbert, or Fitzgislebert.† Baldwin, lord Wake, in the eighth year of king Edward the first, A. D. 1279, obtained a licence for a market weekly on Saturdays, and one annual fair. This was a life, grant, as the same privilege was conferred on the place at the request of Thomas, lord Wake his grandson, in the second year of Edward II.

This town has twice suffered severely by fire; the first occurring on the 25th of August, 1605, by which was destroyed that part of the town called Manor Street, not leaving a single house standing. Again on the 25th of March, 1637, another fire destroyed the greater part of Eastgate, or, as it is written in the records, Eaugate—probably Watergate.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £8. The edifice is a handsome building, and had formerly two large square towers at the west end, one of which is nearly down. The western front of the church displays some fine remains of architecture, as early as the reign of Edward I., with insertions made during a later period, and it deserves an attentive examination by the antiquary, on account of the alterations which it has undergone. The church consists of a lofty chancel, a nave with aisles, and a short transept on the south side. The nave is separated from the aisles by circular plain arches, springing from large columns, exhibiting a specimen of the early Norman style. The font is octagonal, of plain design; it stands under the western-most of the south aisle arches. At the west door is a piscina, and pointed arcades, over which are two lancet shaped windows, and a large window, having four mullions with tracery; there is a similar window at the east end, and near the south entrance an octangular front, very antique, with an inscription round it scarcely legible. On the outside of the south porch is another piscina.

Besides the church are several meeting houses for protestant dissenters; also two almshouses, each endowed with £30 per annum, one for six poor men, and the other for six poor women. The free school here, on the east side of the church-yard, is a spacious handsome building, and was founded and endowed with £30 per annum, for the master, in the second year of Charles I., by William Trollope, esq., who also founded an hospital on the south side of the church-yard.

Town Hall. On the east side of the market place is the Town Hall, a handsome building, recently erected near the site of the ancient structure, said to have been erected by one of the Wake family; but from the arms of Cecil, carved in basso relievo over the centre of the east front, it is more probable that it was built by the treasurer, lord Burleigh. The petty sessions for the parts of Kestevan, are regularly held here at Michaelmas and Christmas.

The Bull Inn, in this town, is said to have been built by William lord Burleigh, and in one

* History of Croyland, folio 899.

† Bishop Gibbon's Edition of Camden, p. 462.

of the rooms was a pannel with the portrait of Queen Elizabeth, habited in black velvet, and jewels, a long white lawn veil, and holding a wooden seive or colander in her left hand. CHAP. II.

The Red Hall, adjoining the town, consists chiefly of brick-work, from which circumstance it derives its name. It is partly surrounded by a deep moat, and partly by a morass, and has long been in the possession of a family named Digby. Red Hall.

An Abbey was founded here by Baldwin, son of Baldwin Fitzgislebert, about 1138, for monks of the order of St. Augustine. It was dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and the site was granted in 1538, to Richard Cotton, esq. According to Dugdale, its annual revenues amounted, at the dissolution, to the sum of £167 14s. 6d. per annum. The abbey stood near the church, and the seat of Mrs. Ponchin, at Bourne Park, occupies the site; some of the walls, indeed, appear to have been part of the original building. Sir Thomas Trollope, bart., left this estate to his nephew, George Ponchin, esq., by whom the present edifice was erected in 1764. Abbey.

There are now no remains of the castle, the seat of the ancient family of Wake. The inhabitants have a tradition that it was demolished by the parliamentarians under Cromwell, on account of the inhabitants having adhered to the fortunes of Charles the first. Castle.

In this town a few Roman coins have been occasionally dug up, and, about seventy-five years ago, a tesselated pavement was discovered in the park grounds.

In a farm yard, within the town, is a medicinal spring, the waters of which have a brackish taste, and a purgative quality, very similar in their effects, but of greater strength than those of Astrop, in the county of Northampton.

A canal was made some years since from hence to Boston, for boats of ten tons burden. By means of this navigation some mercantile business is carried on; but the chief trade of the place is wool-stapling, and tanning leather. The market, which is tolerably well frequented, is held on Saturdays; and the town has four fairs annually: March 7th, May 6th, October 29th, and November 30th, for horses and horned cattle.

According to the returns of 1821, this town contained 404 houses, and 2029 inhabitants.

That eminent statesman, and exalted character, William Cecil, lord Burleigh, was a native of this place, where he was born, at the house of his grandfather, David Cecil, esq., in the year 1520. He studied at St. John's College, Cambridge, whence he removed to Gray's Inn, with a view to study for the law. Having carried on a successful controversy with two Irish priests on the subject of the pope's supremacy, he obtained the notice of the king; and being presented with the reversion of the office of *custos brevium*, was encouraged to push his fortune at court. Having married the sister of Sir John Cheke, he was by his brother-in-law recommended to the earl of Hertford, afterwards the protector Somerset. Having lost his first wife, he took for a second the daughter of Sir Anthony Cook, director of the studies of Edward VI.; and by his alliance with this lady, herself eminent for learning, still further increased his influence; and he rose in 1547, to the post of master of requests, and soon after to that of secretary. He endured in this reign some of the vicissitudes which befel his patron Somerset, but always recovered them; and in 1551, was sworn a member of the privy council. The fate of Somerset did not shake him, and such was his personal favour with Edward, that even the haughty Northumberland treated him Lord Burleigh.

BOOK V. with consideration. On the death of Edward VI., Sir William Cecil prudently declined taking any part in the business, which terminated fatally for lord Dudley, and his unfortunate consort, lady Jane Grey. This procured for him a gracious reception from queen Mary, although he forfeited his office, because he would not change his religion. In 1555 he attended Cardinal Pole, and the other commissioners appointed to treat of peace with France; and on his return, being chosen knight of the shire for the county of Lincoln, honourably distinguished himself by opposing a bill, brought in for the confiscation of estates, in the case of religion.

On queen Elizabeth's succeeding to the throne, in 1558, the cloud was quickly dispelled which had lately obscured his fortune and fame. A few days after her accession, he was appointed privy councillor and secretary of state. One of the first acts of the same reign, was the settlement of religion, which Cecil conducted with great skill and prudence, considering the difficulties to be encountered. In foreign affairs he showed much tact in guarding against the danger arising from the catholic powers, and very judiciously lent support to the reformation in Scotland. On the suppression of the northern rebellion in 1571, Elizabeth raised him to the peerage by the title of baron Burleigh, and in the following year made him knight of the garter. He is charged with being deeply engaged in fomenting the troubles which caused the flight of the imprudent and unhappy Mary queen of Scots, into England; and after the discovery of Babington's conspiracy, he never ceased urging her trial and condemnation. He endured for a short time, the hypocritical resentment of Elizabeth, after the execution of the queen of Scots, but after a while, recovered his former credit.

At the time of the threatened Spanish invasion, he drew up the plan for the defence of the country, with his usual care and ability, but soon after loosing his wife, to whom he was warmly attached, he became desirous of retiring from public business, and of leaving the field open for his son Robert, afterwards earl of Salisbury. He was persuaded, however, to keep his employment, and one of his latest efforts was to effect a peace with Spain, in opposition to the more heated councils of the earl of Essex.

Having thus filled some of the most important situations, and guided the helm of state during the most critical and glorious period of English history, he departed this life on the 4th of August, 1598, in the 78th year of his age. His remains were removed to the burial place at Stamford, where a most magnificent monumental tomb was erected to his memory. The private character of Burleigh was highly regarded, for although he failed not to improve his opportunities as a courtier, he always exhibited a fund of probity to conciliate esteem. In his mode of living he was noble and splendid, but at the same time economical, and attentive to the formation of a competent fortune for his family.

Dr. Dodd. The Rev. Dr. William Dodd was also a native of B[illegible], where he was born in 1729. His father was vicar of this parish, and brought up this son to the church; which he lived to honour by his eloquence and erudition, and to disgrace by his fatal propensity to gallantry and fashionable dissipation. Never, perhaps, was there a clergyman whose manners and writings obtained greater patronage and admiration; yet a single act of injustice involved him in ruin, and brought him to an untimely end. Having committed a forgery on lord Chesterfield, for the sum of £4200; he was arrested, committed to Newgate, tried and

convicted; and though the most powerful influence was exerted in his behalf, and various modes of preserving his life were employed, he was doomed to suffer death at Tyburn, June 27th, 1777. CHAP. II.

Folkingham. FOLKINGHAM is a small market town, situated on the turnpike road leading from Lincoln to London, about twenty-six miles from the former, and one hundred and six from the latter place. The town is situated on the south side of a gently sloping hill, and presents a very neat appearance as the traveller approaches from the London road. It possesses too, notwithstanding its contiguity to the fens, every advantage arising from a salubrious air and good water. There are many excellent springs in its immediate vicinity, but that to which the inhabitants chiefly resort, is south-west of the town, and commonly known by the name of Pearson's spring. In a meadow on the north side, is a very excellent spring, called Dun's Well; and south-east, in a meadow, is a periodical spring, called Swallow Pit, which is supposed to have a communication with the Trent, from the fact of its rising only when the waters of that river are most abundant. In a meadow west of the town, are two barrows or tumuli, on one of which there appears to have been a mill erected at no distant period, several traces of which being distinctly visible.

Church. The church, which was anciently impropriated to the priory of Sempringham, is dedicated to St. Andrew, and consists of a tower, a nave, two aisles, and a chancel, with a neat porch on the south side. The tower is the principal feature; it has eight pinnacles and a rich battlement; the belfry window is made into two lights. The interior of the church is exceedingly neat in appearance, an elegant screen of Gothic fret work separates the nave from the chancel, in the south wall of which are three stone stalls and a piscina, of plain workmanship; but the lower parts of the two stalls nearest the communion table, have been cut away, for the purpose of introducing a door into the chancel.

The living is a rectory, united to the vicarage of Laughton, and is in the patronage of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, bart.

Castle. The castle, or house of correction, is situated at the east end of the town, though scarcely a vestige of the ancient edifice remains, except the inner moat, and some faint traces of the outer one. This castle is supposed to have been built by Henry de Bellomonte, and is said to have been destroyed, or at least greatly damaged, by the parliamentary forces during the civil wars. The outer moat, by which the castle was surrounded, inclosed an area of nearly ten acres. Besides numerous foundations which have at different times been dug up, there was discovered in the year 1813, a stone gutter, about three feet square, supposed to have been used for carrying filth &c., from the castle to the moat on the north side of it. Several brass and copper coins have also been found at different times.

Manor. The manor of Folkingham was given, by the conqueror, to Gilbert de Gaunt, who came over with him from Normandy, and eminently distinguished himself at the decisive battle of Hastings; for which service, William, when he came to the throne, amply rewarded him. For in the Domesday Book it appears, that besides forty-one other lordships which Gilbert was seized of in different counties, he possessed *one hundred and thirty-one* in Lincolnshire, of which Folkingham was one. This place he made his seat, and constituted it the head of the barony. A descendant of Gilbert de Gaunt, who died without issue, 2nd of January, 1274, appointed king Edward I. his heir to the manor and lands of this barony.

BOOK V. They were, by that monarch, granted for eminent services, to Henry de Bellomonte, or Beaumont, who was usually called "Consanguineus Regis." In the family of Bellomonte's the manor continued till the time of Henry VII. After that period it came into the family of the duke of Norfolk; but being forfeited by the attainder of Thomas, duke of Norfolk, it was granted by king Edward VI., in exchange for lands in the county of Worcester, to the family of Clinton. Here was formerly a castle, probably built by Henry de Bellomonte. "From Grimsthorpe to Sempringham five miles; and a mile thence, somewhat inward, is the castle of Folkingham, sometime the lord Bardolf's, since the lord Bellomonte's, now belonging to the duke of Norfolk. It hath been a goodly house, but it now falleth to ruin, and standeth even about the edge of the fens."* Even the ruins have disappeared, and the only remains to mark where once the castle stood, are the moats and mounds on the eastern side of the town.

House of Correction. The house of correction, which is for the parts of Kestevan, stands upon the site of the castle, and was erected in the year 1808. Considerable additions have since been made to it, for the purpose of classing the prisoners according to their crimes or dispositions. The chapel is extremely neat, and very appropriate, being so contrived, that the prisoners in each pew can command a view of the minister, but are, at the same time excluded from seeing each other. Among the most salutary improvements in the prison, may be reckoned the erection of a tread-wheel. The officers of the prison are a chaplain, a governor, and a turnkey.

Free School. This school, though not richly endowed, is free for all boys whose parents receive parochial aid. It was founded in the year 1714, by the Rev. Richard Brocklesby, who gave a moiety of the rents, issues, and profits, of certain lands in the parish of Pidley, in the county of Huntingdon, to be yearly, and for ever paid to a fit and proper person, to be nominated by his trustees, to teach the poor boys of Folkinham their catechism, and to read the Holy Bible. This charitable donor left also, by the same will, a house and premises in Stamford, and directed that one half of the rents, issues, and profits arising therefrom, should yearly, and for ever, be applied towards clothing the poor boys that go to his school at Folkingham.

In the year 1716, Peter Richier, M. D., of the bail of Lincoln, and Mary his wife, gave by deed, a rent charge of ten pounds per annum to the master of this school, for the time being, in augmentation of his salary. The school is in a retired part of the town, adjacent to which is a commodious and handsome dwelling house, well adapted for the accommodation of boarders.

Besides the above mentioned charities, Thomas Arpe, in the year 1657, gave by deed, fifty pounds; and Lot Male, twenty pounds, to the poor of Folkingham, which sums were subsequently laid out in the purchase of fourteen acres of land for their use.

Folkingham has seven annual fairs, viz: on Ash Wednesday, and Palm Monday for horses and sheep; 12th of May for the same, and all sorts of shop goods; 19th of June for horses and horned cattle; 3rd July, for hemp, hardware, and pedlary; Thursday after Old Michaelmas, 10th, and 22nd November, for horses, horned cattle, shop goods, and pedlary. The market is on Thursday, and the quarter sessions are held here for the parts of Kestevan.

* Leland's Itin. vol. I. fol. 28.


J B Topham Del:

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 122 houses, and 759 inhabitants. CHAP. II.

Aslackby.

The village of ASLACKBY is situated at the distance of about two miles to the southward of Folkingham, on the turnpike road leading from thence to London. The living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £12 10s. 7d. The church is an exceedingly handsome structure, consisting of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles, and a square embattled tower at the west end.

Preceptory

A Preceptory, or commandery of Knights Templars, was founded here by John le Mareschal, in the reign of Richard I. It was subsequently occupied by the hospitallers; and at the suppression, the site was granted to Edward lord Clinton, and Ursula his wife. A farm house, where formerly stood the circular church belonging to the Templars, still retains the appellation of the *temple*. A square embattled tower, consisting of two stories yet remains. The lower story is vaulted, and the vault is composed of eight groins. In the centre where these meet, are eight shields with various coats of arms, and the middle one is charged with a cross. Round the outside of the tower, near the top, are several large brackets.*

Castle.

Here formerly stood a castle, which is said to have been built by one of the Wakes. But in this, both Camden, and the author of the Magna Britannia were mistaken, for a castle appears to have existed here as early as the year 1062, before the Wakes possessed the manor. Leland observed, that in his time "there appeared great ditches, and the dungeon-hill at the west end of the priory, also much service of the Wake's fee was done to it, and that every fadary knew his station and place of service." The building is entirely destroyed, but the earth works on the west side are nearly entire. The area within the outer moat contains about eight acres; between the moat and ditch are very large irregular works on the north and west sides. They consist of raised banks, about twenty yards in length, and ten in breadth, with a ditch between each.

In 1821, this parish contained 67 houses, and 318 inhabitants.

Billingborough.

BILLINGBOROUGH is a considerable village, situated at the distance of about three miles eastward from Folkingham. In the village are many very excellent shops, and the inns can scarcely be surpassed even in places of far greater magnitude. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a vicarage, rated at £6 1s. 8d. In 1821, the parish contained 162 houses, and 748 inhabitants.

Dembleby

The village of DEMBLEBY is situated at the distance of about three miles north-west from Folkingham. The church, dedicated to St. Lucia, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £6 11s. 8d. In 1821, the parish contained 11 houses, and 58 inhabitants.

Dowsby.

DOWSBY is situated at the distance of about six miles northward from Bourn, and in 1821, contained 35 houses, and 201 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a rectory, rated at £11 19s. 6d.

* Oct. 20th, 1818, at Knutsford (Cheshire) Michaelmas quarter sessions, when the names of the grand jury were called over, one of them put in an antiquated plea of exemption, founded upon the circumstance of the land which he occupied having formerly belonged to the Knights of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, and from the occupiers having always claimed an exemption from serving upon juries. The claim on this occasion was deemed valid, and the gentleman who had been called was allowed his exemption.

BOOK V.

Dunsby. The village of DUNSBY is situated about four miles to the north of Bourn. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, rated at £12 14s. 7d., and is in the patronage of the governors of the Charter House, London. According to the returns of 1821, this parish at that period contained 31 houses, and 190 inhabitants.

Haceby. HACEBY, supposed by some writers to be the site of the ancient Roman Station, Causennis, is situated about three miles and a half north-westward from the market town of Folkingham. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £5 2s. 11d. In 1821, the parish contained 11 houses, and 65 inhabitants.

Roman Villa. Near this village, by the Bridge-end turnpike-road, on the side of a hill, commanding a view of the coast at Boston Haven, were discovered early in the year 1818, very considerable remains of ancient buildings, tesselated pavements, and other indications of a fixed Roman military station; and further search in digging and removing the earth having been made by order of Sir William Earl Welby, and Lord Brownlow, the proprietors of the parish of Haceby, many other interesting remains were discovered. The first subject was found by some labourers in widening the road; it consisted of three distinct apartments; the middle one was 16 feet by 22, the floors of which were paved with red and white small stones, three quarters of an inch square each, forming different patterns, the first, by the road in squares; the middle one octagons, and of the third, only part of a border, inscribed with circles remained perfect. These floors appeared to be formed of a bed of compact tempered blue-clay twenty inches thick, covered with a strong cement of of lime, and about two inches thick, in which the tesseræ were placed and set fast. The walls were of stone, firmly laid in coarse lime mortar; the outside ones were five feet thick the inner ones, between the apartments, three feet only. Not any of these walls remained higher than the floors. No idea can be formed of them as an habitation further than to guess from fragments dug up, which clearly showed that the roof was covered with coarse blue slate, and the walls lined on the inside with different coloured tiles, not any two alike; and in some parts by fine cement, similar to stone, painted in various colours. Of the windows, only a very few pieces of glass were found, and not of a size sufficient to shew any thing except in one place, which was stained through of a beautiful blue colour. Of timber, nothing was met with, but there was a considerable quantity of soot and charcoal, like embers, which produced a conjecture that the fabric had probably been partly consumed by fire.

Hacconby. The village of HACCONBY, is situated at the distance of about four miles to the north of Bourn. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £5 17s. 6d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. In 1821, the parish contained 50 houses, and 263 inhabitants. The hamlet of Stainfield belongs to this parish.

Horbling. HORBLING is situated, about three miles and a half north-eastward from Folkingham. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a vicarage, rated at £6 10s., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. The plan of the edifice is cruciform, with a tower at the intersection. The north aisle and north transept, are good specimens of the architecture of the reign of Edward III., the latter having in it a very rich corbel. The western front exhibits some remains of Anglo-Norman architecture, and a fine window of the period



of Henry VI. Some parts of the chancel are also Anglo-Norman, of which the piscina deserves particular notice. The font in this church is decorated with shields, charged with the emblems of the crucifixion,—a frequent ornament on fonts. In 1821, the parish contained 91 houses, and 491 inhabitants. CHAP. II.

The village of KIRKBY UNDERWOOD is distant about five miles northward from Bourn. The church, dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £6 3s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained [illegible] houses, and 167 inhabitants. Kirkby Underwood.

LAUGHTON, one mile south from Folkingham, is now a hamlet belonging to that parish. There was formerly a church in this place, but it was long since destroyed, and the living, which was a vicarage, consolidated with the rectory of Folkingham. It stood in a hollow, west of the turnpike road. In 1821, it contained 11 houses, and 76 inhabitants. Laughton.

MORTON is situated at the distance of about two miles and a half northward from Bourn. The church dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a vicarage, rated at £9 1s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. In 1821, this place contained 111 houses, and 511 inhabitants. Hanthorpe, or Harmthorpe, is a hamlet belonging to this parish. Morton.

The village of NEWTON is situated about two miles and a half north from Folkingham. The church, dedicated to St. Botolph, is a rectory rated in the king's books at £10. In 1821, this parish contained 34 houses, and 162 inhabitants. Newton.

OSBOURNBY is situated at the distance of three miles northward from Folkingham. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a vicarage, rated at £7 0s. 5d. The edifice contains some fine architecture of about the period of Edward III. Nearly the whole of the old open seats in the church are still in existence; they are very richly carved, and scarcely two of them are alike. Over the screen, between the chancel and nave, are the remains of a rood-loft, which has been enlarged, and is now used as a gallery. The original staircase is still in use. The chancel contains some fine ancient stalls. The font is Anglo-Norman, and is ornamented with pillars, and interlaced semicircular arches. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 91 houses, and 428 inhabitants. Osbournby.

The village of PECKWORTH stands at the distance of about two miles westward from Bourn. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a rectory rated in the king's books at £11 12s. 3d. In 1821, the parish contained 39 houses, and 186 inhabitants. Pickworth.

RIPPINGALE, is distant about five miles northward from Bourn. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a rectory, in three parts, two of which are valued at £14 7s. 1d., and the third part at £7 3s. 9d. In 1821, the parish contained 117 houses, and 611 inhabitants. Rippingale.

SCOTT WILLOUGHBY, a very small village, is distant about three miles eastward from Folkingham. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a rectory, rated at £7 1s. 8d., and is in the patronage of Earl Brownlow. In 1821, this parish contained only 2 houses, and 12 inhabitants. Scott Willoughby.

The village of SEMPERINGHAM is distant about three miles south-east from Folkingham. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £2 15s. 8d. The church which serves the two parishes of Poyton and Billingborough, is only a part of the ancient monastic edifice belonging to this place. The north aisle is separated from the Semperingham.

BOOK V. nave by four circular pillars. The western pillars are clustered and round. The other round; one pannelled, and flowers under the arch. The font is octagonal, with shields in quarterfoils. The tower which is plain and massive, is crowned with eight rich pinnacles.

Priory. This village is noted in the monastic annals of England, for giving birth to Sir Gilbert de Semperingham, who founded a novel religious order, and settled it at this, his native place. Gilbert was the eldest son of a Norman knight, and was sent to France for education; returning from thence he took orders and obtained great preferments; being presented to the churches of Tissingden and Semperingham, and appointed chaplain to the bishop of Lincoln. Having devoted himself wholly to a religious life he obtained leave of Pope Eugenius III., in the year 1148, to institute a new order of monks. to be called Gilbertines, after his own christian name. The singularity adopted by, and the reputed piety of the first recluse, soon attracted the attention of others, and induced numbers of both sexes to join the society. For their reception, Gilbert employed his large estate in building a house, and settling on the institution an adequate endowment. The rules laid down for the regulation of the order, were—1st, That the nuns should follow the rules of St. Benedict, and the monks the rules of St. Augustine.—2nd, That the men should live in a separate habitation from the women, and never have access to the nuns, but at the administration of the sacrament.—3rd, That the same church should serve both for divine service.—4th, —That the sacrament should be administered to both together, but in the presence of many witnesses. Though this motley order was contrary to the law of the Justinian code. yet it long flourished, and numerous monasteries were subsequently founded, conformably to the Gilbertine scheme. The founder lived to see thirteen erected, in which were 700 men, and 1100 women. He attained the great age of 100 years; and from his austerity, and many miracles having been performed after his death, according to legendary stories, he was canonized by Pope Innocent III., in the year 1202. For some centuries this order maintained its credit, for superior sanctity, but at a subsequent period the brethren and sisters departed strangely from the continency and chastity, they so solemnly and religiously professed. The annual revenues of the priory in Semperingham, at the suppression, were valued, according to Speed, at £359 11s. 7d. The monastery stood to the north-east of the church, the site of which may still be traced by a moated area.

Their habit was a black cassock with a white cloak over it, and a hood lined with lamb-skins.* The arms of this house were: Barry of six, Ar. and Gu. over all, in bend sinister, a pilgrim's staff, or, a crozier in pale, Or.

Near the village of Semperingham, was found a few years ago, a fragment of a large Roman urn or vase, of fine light red earth, representing Victory, with a hare behind her, and part of a gauntlet, with a standard, wreaths, &c., in bas relief, with many beads of divers colours.

In 1821, this parish contained 6 houses, and 43 inhabitants. Birthorpe and Pointon are townships of the parish.

Spanby. SPANBY, situated at the distance of about three miles and a half northward from Folk-

* Pref. to Tanner. Not. mon. p. xix.

ingham, is a small village, which in 1821, contained 23 houses, and 73 inhabitants. The church dedicated to St. Nicholas is a curacy.

Swaton.

The village of SWATON, is distant about three miles and a half to the north-eastward of Folkingham, and in 1821, contained 50 houses, and 298 inhabitants. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £12 7s. 1d. The edifice is cruciform in plan, with a handsome tower at the intersection. The nave and its side aisles are fine examples of the architecture of the reign of Edward III., particularly the western window, which is very large. The tower, raised on arches of an early period, is groined at the second story. The southern transept is partly destroyed, but the northern transept has a very fine window. The chancel presents a good specimen of the architecture of the reign of Henry III., and the eastern window is well worthy of particular observation. The font is very curious, and is in excellent preservation.

Threckingham.

THRECKINGHAM, which is situated about eight miles south of Sleaford, and two miles northward from Folkingham, was, previous to the year 870, called Laundon, at which time on account of the burial of three Danish Kings or Chiefs, it was changed to Tre-king-ham or Threckingham. This village stands upon the Salt-Way, the direct road, from the salt mines at Droitwich to the coast of Lincolnshire. The Roman Road, called the Hermen Street also passes through Threckingham. This place, like many others in the county, enjoyed ease and prosperity until those terrible scourges, the Danes, made an irruption into this neighbourhood, and laid waste with fire and sword all that opposed their progress. It appears to have been a place of considerable strength, if we may judge from the defence made against the enemy. Ingulphus, abbot of Croyland, speaking of this event, says "The Danes entered England in the year 869, and wintered at York; and in the year 870 proceeded to the parts of Lindsey in Lincolnshire, where they commenced their destructive depredations, by laying waste the abbey of Bardney. In the month of September in the latter year, Earl Algar, with two of his seneschals, (Wibert, owner of Wiberton, and Leofric, owner of Leverton,) attended by the men of Holland (Lincolnshire;) Toly, a monk (formerly a soldier,) with two hundred men belonging to Croyland Abbey, and three hundred from Deeping, Langtoft, and Boston; Morcar, lord of Bourne, with his powerful family; and Osgott sheriff of Lincolnshire, with the forces of the county, being five hundred mustered in Kesteven in Lincolnshire, on the day of St. Maurice, and fought with the Danes, over whom they obtained considerable advantage, killing three of their kings, and many of their private soldiers, and pursuing the rest to their very camp until night obliged them to separate. In the same night several of the princes and earls of the Danes with their followers, who had been out in search of plunder, came to the assistance of their countrymen; by the report of which many of the English were so dismayed, that they took to flight; those, however, who had resolution to face the enemy in the morning, went to prayers, and were marshalled for battle. Among the latter were Toly with his five hundred men in the right wing, with Morcar and his followers to support them; and Osgot the sheriff, with his five hundred men in the left wing, and with the stout knight, Harding de Riehale, and the men of Stanford. The Danes, after having buried the three kings whom they had lost the day before, at a place called Laundon, but since, from that circumstance, called Trekingham, marched out into the field. The battle began, and the English, though much inferior in numbers,

BOOK V. kept their ground the greater part of the day with steadiness and resolution; until the Danes feigning a flight, were rashly pursued without attention to order. The Danes then took advantage of the confusion of the English, returned to the charge, and made their opponents pay dearly for their temerity; in fine, the Danes were completely victorious. In this battle Earl Algar, the monk Toly, and many other valiant men, were slain on the part of the English; after which, the Danes proceeded to the destruction of the abbies of Crowland, Thorney, Ramsey, and Hamstede (Peterborough), and many other places in the neighbourhood."

Church. The living is a vicarage, rated at £6 8s. 9d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a large, well built stone edifice, consisting of a nave, side aisles, chancel, and south porch, with a lofty tower and spire at the west end. In the north aisle are three stone coffins, with the lids or covers entire, said traditionally to have once contained the remains of the three Danish kings killed in the battle above mentioned. This, however, is an error, for Dr. Stukeley says he traced the words "*Hic Inlvmvlatvr Iohannes quondam d'vs de Trikingham;*" probably John de Threckingham, who was sheriff in the year 1334. These coffins were removed hither about five and forty years ago, from the church yard, for better security.

At the east end of the nave are two recumbent stone figures, said by Hollis, to represent Lambert de Trekingham and his wife. The man is in a warrior's dress, and on his shield are the arms of his family. In the church are several other curious ancient monuments, one of the Fisher family, and one to Edward Dawson.

At Stow, a hamlet belonging to this parish, a fair is annually held, on a piece of ground called Stow Green Hill, for cattle and all kinds of tradesmens goods, on the 4th of July, besides another on the 15th and 16th of June for horses only. These fairs, it is conjectured were both as one, and formerly held the whole time of the intermediate days, for a toll is still paid for all carriages that pass over the hill between the 15th day of June, and the 4th of July in each year. This fair is said to have originated in commemoration of the before mentioned battle with the Danes on or near the above piece of Land; however, be that as it may, it is certain that a fair has been held here nearly eight hundred years, as one of the extracts from the Conqueror's survey, says "There is a fair yielding forty shillings."

In 1821, the parish of Threckingham, including the hamlet of Stow, contained 39 houses, and 202 inhabitants.

Walcot. The village of WALCOT is situated about one mile and a half to the north-westward of Folkingham. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a curacy in the presentation of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, bart. At this place is a chalybeate spring, formerly celebrated for its medicinal virtues. In 1821, this parish contained 28 houses, and 152 inhabitants.

Winnibriggs and Theo Wapentake. The WAPENTAKE OF WINNIBRIGGS and THEO is bounded on the north by Loveden wapentake; on the east by Aswardhurn wapentake; on the south by Grantham Soke, and on the west by Leicestershire.

This wapentake contains the parishes of West Allington, Barrowby, Boothy Paynell, Haydor, Honington, Little Ponton, Ropsley, Sedgebrook, Somerby, Stroxton, Syston, Welby, Wilsford, Woolsthorpe, and Wyvil.

Allington, West. The village of WEST ALLINGTON, is situated at the distance of about five miles north

westward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £8 13s. 11d., and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821, this parish contained 73 houses, and 357 inhabitants.

Barrowby. BARROWBY is situated on the borders of Leicestershire, at the distance of about two miles westward from Grantham. The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, rated at £31 1s. 5d.; it is in the patronage of the Earl of Thanet. In 1821, the parish contained 117 houses, and 671 inhabitants.

Boothby Paynell. The village of BOOTHBY PAYNELL, is distant about five miles south-eastward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £11 10s. 5d. Dr. Richard Saunderson, bishop of Lincoln, was rector of this parish for upwards of forty years. His MSS. relating to this county, were preserved by the late Sir Joseph Banks, bart., in the library at Revesby Abbey.

Dr. Saunderson was born at Rotherham, educated at Lincoln College, Oxford, and in 1617 was presented by his kinsman, Viscount Castleton, to the rectory of Wiburton, near Boston; but the air not agreeing with his constitution he resigned the living, and in 1619 became rector of Boothby Paynel, in the presentation of Thomas Harrington, Esq. In 1631 he was made chaplain to Charles I.; and in 1633 was recommended by George Earl of Rutland, to the rectory of Munster, in Leicestershire; which being in the immediate neighbourhood of Belvoir Castle, he became of course an attendant there, both in 1634, and 1636, when the king distinguished that castle by visiting it, and probably waited on the king at Oxford, where, in August 1636, he was honoured with the degree of D.D.; and in 1642, was professor of Divinity in that university. In 1648, he was deprived of his professorship, and retiring to Boothby, was there taken prisoner and carried to Lincoln, to be exchanged for the rector of Allington, who had been taken by the king's party. In 1660, he was consecrated bishop of Lincoln, at the age of 73; and died January 29th, 1662.

Previous to passing the act of uniformity, (1661,) some alterations were made in the Liturgy by the bishops. The prayer "for all conditions of men," and the "general thanksgiving," were both added, and are ascribed to Saunderson. The piety, the spirit, and the happy adoption of language, conspicuous in these productions, must ever render them subjects of admiration to men of true taste and principle.*

In 1821, this parish contained 21 houses, and 110 inhabitants.

Haydor. The village of HAYDOR, is situated at the distance of about five miles south-west from Sleaford, and about eight miles eastward from Grantham. The living is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £12 6s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the prebendary of Haydor. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, consists of a chaste tower and spire, a lofty nave, two side aisles, a chancel, and a chantry chapel. A beautiful fragment of an arch over the entrance to the tower stairs, is the oldest part of the structure. The nave is supported by six slender octagonal pillars, terminating in pointed arches, over which rise six pointed clerestory windows on each side. The roof is of oak, with the beams richly carved. There are some decorated windows with fine tracery, in which still remains a great quantity of

* Gents. Mag. 1801. part i.—page 105.

BOOK V. stained glass, consisting of armorial bearings, figures and labels or mottos, in many instances quite perfect.

Mr. Creasey in his History of Sleaford, says "In a field west of the village, and only a few hundred yards from the church, we saw the most decided proofs of the existence here, at one time of a castle, which, judging from the very extended area which it clearly occupied, must have been an edifice of vast size. The foundations of its massy walls, gate house, keep, and *tower-ets*, are singularly traceable; and although not one stone now remains upon another, yet the immense banks of earth, which were cast up when the foundations of this building were razed, speak the most convincing language of its ancient strength and glory." In the absence of any authentic record, the author above quoted, thinks that it may be fairly inferred to have been built by one of the Husseys, in the reign of King Stephen.

At Culverthorpe, a hamlet belonging to this parish, is a seat of the Newton family. It is a fine mansion, and carries with it the appearance of the seat of a family of some consequence. Tradition tells us of a chapel formerly in this hamlet, and that it was dedicated to St. Bartholomew, but nothing further is known of its existence, there being no vestiges of it remaining.

In 1821, Haydor with its hamlets of Culverthorpe and Kelby, contained 52 houses, and 337 inhabitants.

Honington. HONINGTON or HUNNINGTON, is distant about four miles and a half to the north of Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Wilfrid, is a vicarage, rated at £4 0s. 5d. In this parish is a small Roman summer camp, which was defended by a double fosse and vallum. Near it vast quantities of coins, contained in urns, have been found. In 1821, this place contained 28 houses, and 156 inhabitants.

Little Ponton. The village of LITTLE PONTON, or PAUNTON is situated at the distance of about two miles and a half southward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Guthlac, is a rectory rated at £7 10s. In this village is a handsome mansion, which was begun by lord Witherington, who built the south side of it. Additions were subsequently made by Mr. Day, who bequeathed it to Mr. Prettyman, which gentleman erected the western front. The house, which is handsomely built of stone, though erected at different times, preserves an uniformity of plan, and is situated on a fine lawn, surrounded by plantations of luxuriant growth.

At Little Ponton, various Roman remains have been discovered at different periods. According to the returns made to parliament in 1821, this parish then contained 30 houses, and 180 inhabitants.

Ropsley. ROPSLEY is situated at the distance of about five miles and a half to the east of Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £11 14s. 2d., and is in the patronage of the duke of Rutland. Little Humby is a hamlet of this parish. In 1821, Ropsley contained 97 houses, and 489 inhabitants.

Bishop Fox. Ropsley is celebrated for having been the birth place of Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester, who built and endowed the free school of Grantham. This eminent prelate was born here, about the latter end of the reign of Henry VI. He studied for some time at Magdalen College, Oxford, but the plague breaking out there, he finished his education at Pembroke Hall, Cambridge. He then went to Paris, where he became intimate with Dr. Morton,

bishop of Ely, who introduced him to Henry VII., then earl of Richmond, who was meditating a descent upon England to dethrone the usurper, Richard III. Dr. Fox soon acquired the earl's favour, and was admitted into his most secret councils; and in 1485, when, by the victory of Bosworth Field, Henry became king of England, he appointed him one of his privy councillors In 1486-7, he was created bishop of Exeter, and keeper of the privy seal, also principal secretary of state, and master of St. Cross near Winchester. He was subsequently employed on various embassies, and in 1492 was translated to the bishopric of Bath and Wells, whence in 1494, he was again translated to the see of Durham. Dr. Fox was employed to negociate a treaty of marriage, between Henry's daughter Margaret, and the king of Scotland, which alliance was concluded in 1501-2. In 1508 he was finally removed to the see of Winchester, where he passed the rest of his life.

Bishop Fox was engaged in matters of importance, and possessed of the greatest weight and influence in public affairs, during the whole of the reign of Henry VII., who made him one of his executors, and recommended him to his successor Henry VIII. Henceforward his influence greatly declined; Howard, earl of Surrey and lord treasurer, by accommodating himself to the passion of his master, became the favourite; and Wolsey, whom Fox introduced to counteract his influence, quickly grew more powerful than either. Disgusted at seeing himself completely supplanted, by the man whom he had been the means of raising to power, and at receiving from him many insults and mortifications, he retired in 1515 to his diocese, and passed the rest of his days in acts of charity and munificence. He was the founder of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and of the free-schools at Taunton and Grantham. Towards the latter part of his life he became totally blind, and died on the 14th of September 1528, after having governed the see of Winchester for a period of twenty seven years.

The village of SEDGEBROOK, is situated at the distance of about three miles and a half north westward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, is a rectory in medieties, one valued at £7 18s. 9d., and the other at £7 4s. 7d., and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821, the parish contained 39 houses, and 230 inhabitants. Sedgebrook.

SOMERBY, three miles and a half south-eastward from Grantham, contained in 1821, 50 houses, and 246 inhabitants, including Great Humby, a hamlet belonging to this parish. The church dedicated to St. Mary Magdelen, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £11 12s. 3d. Somerby.

The village of STROXTON is at the distance of about four miles south-westward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a rectory, rated at £3 8s. 5d. Stroxton Hall, is the seat of the Hon. C. Perceval. In 1821, this parish contained 22 houses, and 140 inhabitants. Stroxton.

SYSTON is situated at the distance of about three miles and a half north-eastward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £53, and is in the patronage of Sir John Thorold, bart. Syston Park, delightfully situated upon an eminence, commanding an extensive and diversified view, is the seat of the Thorolds. In 1834 it came into the possession of Sir Charles Ogle, Bart. by marriage with Lady Thorold, relict of the late Sir John Thorold, of this place. In 1821, this parish contained 38 houses, and 188 inhabitants. Syston.

WELBY is distant about four miles eastward from Grantham. The church, dedicated to Welby.

BOOK V. St. Bartholomew, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £10 6s. 3d., and is in the patronage the prebendary of South Granthamin the cathedral church of Salisbury. According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained 65 houses, and 377 inhabitants.

Wilsford. The village of WILSFORD or WIVELSFORD, is situated at the distance of about four miles south westward from Sleaford. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £10. A priory of Benedictine monks was founded here in the reign of King Stephen, by Hugo de Wake, which was subordinate to the abbey of Bec, in Normandy, and afterwards to the abbey of Bourn, in this county. A part of the possessions of the last named religious house, was granted in 1538 to Charles duke of Suffolk. In 1821, this parish contained 74 houses, and 341 inhabitants.

At Wilsford was born Sir Charles, son of Sir Clement Cotterel, groom porter to king James I. In 1670 he was created L. L. D. in the University of Oxford, and became master of the requests to Charles II. He particularly excelled in the knowledge of the modern languages, and during the exile of his royal master, translated from the French the famed romance of "Cassandra," and took a principal share in the translation of "Davilla's History of the Civil Wars of France," from the Italian, and several pieces from the Spanish. In 1686 he resigned his place of master of the ceremonies, to his son, and it remained for many generations in the family. He is celebrated by Mrs. Catherine Philips, the once famous Orinda, under the name of Poliarchus.*

Woolsthorpe. WOOLSTHORPE, is situated on the borders of Leicestershire, at the distance of about six miles to the south west of Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. James, is a rectory rated in the king's books at £12 [illegible] 8d., and is in the patronage of the Duke of Rutland. About sixty years ago, under an idea that coal might be found in this part of the country, the Duke of Rutland had the ground bored to the depth of 169 feet, where a stratum of soft coal, fourteen inches thick was discovered. The miners bored deeper, but without further success. They again bored at Braunston, three miles to the west, to the depth of 469 feet, but no coal was found, nor did the strata appear similar to that at Woolsthorpe.

According to the returns made to parliament in 1821, this place contained 95 houses, and 566 inhabitants.

Wyvil. WYVIL is situated on the borders of Leicestershire, at the distance of about five miles and a half south westward from Grantham, and in 1821, contained with its hamlet of Hungerton, 21 houses, and 124 inhabitants. The church is in ruins.

Beltisloe. The Wapentake of BELTISLOE, is bounded on the north by Winnibriggs and Three Wapentake; on the east by Aveland Wapentake; on the south by Ness Wapentake, and Rutlandshire; and on the west by Grantham soke and Leicestershire.

This wapentake contains the market town of Corby, and the villages of Basingthorpe, Bitchfield, Burton Coggles, Castle Bytham, Little Bythan, Careby, Creeton, Edenham, Gunby, Irnham, Lavington, Skillington, Stainby, Swayfield, Swinestead, Witham on the Hill, North Witham, and South Witham.

Corby. The little market town of CORBY, is situated at the distance of about eight miles south eastward from Grantham, and about thirty three miles to the south of Lincoln. The church

* Granger,—Ath. Ox.



dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £5 12s. 1d. The town, though situated on the Roman road leading to Ancaster, contains nothing that deserves particular mention, except a grammar school for the sons of poor deceased clergymen, founded in 1763, by Charles Reed, Esq. who endowed it with a rent charge of £48 15s. The market here is on Thursday, and there are fairs held on the 26th of August, and the Monday before the 10th of October for horses and horned cattle. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained 107 houses, and 581 inhabitants.

BASINGTHORPE is distant about three miles north-westward from Corby. The church, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £8 17s. 6d. In 1821, this parish with the hamlet of Westby, contained 21 houses and 115 inhabitants. Basingthorpe.

At the manor-house of this place was born Thomas Coney, the son of Richard Coney, merchant of the staple at Calais, who died in 1545, from whom he inherited a considerable property. In 1554 he married Alice, second daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh, knt. alderman of London, and ancestor to Francis Leigh, Earl of Chichester. Thomas Coney.

He was taken prisoner at Calais in 1558, when that town was surrendered to the Duke of Guise and conveyed captive to Boulogne, where, after two months severe confinement he was ransomed at the price of £374: amongst other articles of value, he lost the costly apparel which he had provided against his return to England, being that year chosen treasurer of the staple.* In 1573 he was high sheriff of Rutland; when he wore his chain of gold weighing thirty-two ounces, which was given him by his wife against the assizes for that county, which it seems were held at Stamford.†

He much increased his estate, as appears by the rental of it in 1577. The line of trade by which his great fortune was acquired, was extremely lucrative. The merchants of the staple had almost a monopoly of all wools exported; nor were, the merchant adventurers, who traded likewise in wools, a company less respectable; witness their splendid reception of king Philip of Spain, when he took possession of the Low Countries in 1540, which is thus related by Mr. Wheeler, their secretary.‡ "Maister John Sturgeon, at that time governor of the company, was at the receiving in of the said prince, accompanied with thirty merchants of the company on horseback, all richly equiped and handsomely attended, nothing inferior to the merchants of other nations, namely the Germans, Easterlings, Italians, Spaniards, &c., and surmounting some of them in costly apparel, whereby they wanne great honour and commendation to the whole English name."

BITCHFIELD is situated at the distance of about three miles to the north-west of Corby. The church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £5 11s. 5½d., endowed with £200 parliamentary grant, and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln. In 1821, this parish contained 144 inhabitants. Bitchfield.

The village of BURTON COGGLES is distant about two miles north-westward from Corby. The church, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, is a rectory rated at £16 12s. 3½d., and is in the patronage of the crown. A charity School, belonging to this parish, has a small Burton Coggles.

* Coney's Household Book. † Ibid.

‡ See his Treatise of Commerce, 1601, p. 154.

endowment arising from bequests by John Speight in 1734, and Catherine Chomeley in 1773. According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained at that period 245 inhabitants.

Castle Bytham.

CASTLE BYTHAM is situated at the distance of about five miles south-west from Corby, and comprises the chapelry of Holywell with Awnby, the township of Castle Bytham, and the hamlet of Counthorpe, and in 1821, contained 736 inhabitants, of which number 577 were in the township of Castle Bytham. The living is a discharged vicarage with which the rectory of little Bytham is consolidated, rated in the king's books at £7 13s. 6d., and is in the patronage of the bishop of Lincoln, and the dean and chapter alternately. The church is dedicated to St. James.

Castle.

At this place was a fortified mansion or castle, which belonged to lord Hussey in the time of king Henry the seventh. In the time of William the conqueror, this manor was the property of Odo, earl of Albemarle and Holderness; who having married Adiliza, the king's sister, obtained the grant of the castle and adjoining territory, for the support of their infant son, Stephen; and for the specified purpose that they might be enabled to feed him with *wheaten bread.* William de Foxtibus, earl of Albemarle, in the time of Edward III., rebelled against that monarch; and fortifying his castle at Bytham, plundered the surrounding country. But the fortress being besieged by the royal troops, it was levelled with the ground. It was afterwards repaired, and long remained in possession of the family of Colville,

Little Bytham

LITTLE BYTHAM is situated at the distance of about five miles south from Corby. The church dedicated to St. Medardus, is a rectory, consolidated with the vicarage of Castle Bytham, and is rated in the king's books at £4 8s. 4d. The patronage of this living is in the bishop, and the dean and chapter of Lincoln alternately. In 1821, this parish contained 223 inhabitants.

Careby.

The village of CAREBY is distant about seven miles to the north of Stamford. The church, dedicated to St. Stephen, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £8 17s. 1d., Lady Willoughby and Lord Gwydir were patrons in 1826. In the year 1821, the parish contained 51 inhabitants.

Creeton.

CREETON is situated at the distance of about three miles southward from Corby. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a rectory rated at £4 15s. 10d., and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821, this parish contained 51 inhabitants.

Edenham.

EDENHAM is situated at the distance of about three miles and a half north-west from the market town of Bourn. The living is a perpetual curacy in the patronage of Lord Gwydir and Lady Willoughby D'Eresby. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, was formerly appropriated to the abbey of Vaudey, or de Valle Dei, in this parish. The edifice consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, a chancel, south porch, and a handsome western tower. This latter is of more modern erection than some parts of the church, and was probably built about the time of king Henry VI. The western door has a flat pointed arch with quartrefoils in the groins. The aisles are separated from the nave, by four arches on each side. At the east end of the north aisles, are two tablets of black marble, bordered with naval and military trophies; over which, within a garter surmounted by an earl's coronet, is a shield containing twenty-five coats. On the first tablet is a latin

inscription to the memory of Robert Bertie, earl of Lindsey, who fell a martyr to loyalty at the battle of Edgehill, in the time of Charles I., in the sixtieth year of his age, A. D. 1642. The other tablet records the virtues and exploits of his son H. S. E. Montacute, who in the royal cause accompanied his father, but survived the tempestuous period, dying the 25th of July 1656, in the fifty-ninth year of his age. A mural tablet of white marble is sacred to the memory of Richard Bertie, earl of Lindsey, Lord Great Chamberlain of England, who attended James, Duke of York, afterwards King James II., and Mareschall de Turenne, at the seige of Mouzan in 1653, and that of Landreey, in 1655. He commanded a troop of horse in Ireland, and served against the rebel duke of Monmouth: he died a batchelor the 19th of January, A. D. 1686. On the south side of the chancel is a monument of white and variegated marble, with an inscription commemorative of Robert, lord Willoughby, who died May the 9th, A. D. 1701. Opposite to this is a rich marble monument with a handsome entablature supported by Corinthian columns, with an inscription, stating that in a vault beneath lie the remains of Robert Bertie, created Duke of Ancaster and Kesteven by king George I., and who by death quitted all earthly honours, July 26th in the year 1728. The monument was executed by Sheemakers and H. Cheere. Against the same wall is a monument consisting of a pedestal of white marble, on which is the effigy of Perigrine, the second duke of Ancaster in a Roman dress, reclining on an urn. On the front is an inscription purporting that he died January 1st. 1741, leaving four sons and three daughters. On the south side of the chancel is a very elegant white veined marble monument, executed by Harris of London, to the memory of Perigrine, third duke of Ancaster, who died in the sixty-fifth year of his age, August 12th 1778. It also records the memory of his son Robert, fourth duke of Ancaster, who died the 8th of July, 1779; only eleven months after he had succeeded to the title and estates.

The font in this church is circular, and is surrounded by eight attached pillars with ornamented capitals, supporting small arches, and appears to be more ancient than the church. The seats in the church are of oak, open at the ends, which are perforated in small quatrefoil compartments.

Grimsthorpe Castle.

About two miles north-westward from Edenham is Grimsthorpe Castle, the seat of Lord Gwydir. The house is a large irregular structure, and appears to have been erected at different periods. The south-east tower is embattled at the top, and contains a winding stone staircase, leading to a room having windows similar to those of many ancient castles, and appears to have been built as early as the time of King Henry III.; the principal part of the house, however, was erected in the time of Henry VIII. Fuller calls it an extempore structure, raised suddenly by Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, to entertain that monarch in his progress through this part of his kingdom. The handsomest part of the building is the north front, which was erected between the years 1722 and 1723, from a design, and under the direction of Sir John Vanburgh: it consists of two lofty wings, balustraded at top, and having a pinnacle at each corner.

The house is very convenient, and some of the apartments are elegantly fitted up. The great hall, which is 50 feet in length by 40 in breadth, and of a well proportioned height, was fitted up to receive a suit of hangings made of Gobelin tapestry, which the duke came in possession of by his wife, Mary, queen of France; at each end is a stone staircase, sepa-

BOOK V. rated from the apartment by stone arches. The east, west, and south fronts, which have embattled turrets at the angles, were erected about the same time with the hall; the north-west tower contains a beautiful chapel. From the hall a stone staircase leads to the principal apartments: the first is a tea-room, richly ornamented with fluted pilasters of the Corinthian order, finely carved and gilt, the ceiling, cornices, &c., are ornamented with gilt scrolls, on a light red colour, in a most light and elegant manner. The dining room, which is 40 feet by 27, has two bow windows, and is fitted up with gilt ornaments on a blue ground. The festoons of gilt carving among the pictures, &c., are in a light and pleasing taste; and the chimney-piece is considered one of the most elegant in England: under the cornice are three basso relievos in white marble, but not polished, in the centre is a man pulling a thorn out of a lion's paw, well executed; these are upon a ground of Sienna marble, and have a fine effect; they are supported on each side by a fluted Ionic pillar of Sienna. In this apartment are several family portraits, and other capital pictures. The blue Damask bed-chamber is elegant, being hung with blue paper, upon which are painted different landscapes in blue and white, with representations of frames, and lines and tassels in the same; the toilet is in a bow window, and is likewise blue and white. Adjoining this room is the breakfast-closet, which is extremely elegant and quite original in design. It is hung with fine India paper, the ceilings in arched compartments, the ribs of which join in the centre, forming the gilt rays of the sun, the ground is prettily dotted with coloured Indian birds; the window shutters, the doors, and the front of the drawers (let into the wall) are all painted in scrolls and festoons of flowers, in green, white, and gold; the sofa, chairs, and stool frames, being of the same.

This magnificent structure stands in a park sixteen miles in circumference. From the gates of the north, or principal front, is an avenue which extends near a mile in length, on the south are the gardens and pleasure grounds, and on the west a beautiful sloping lawn descends to two lakes, comprising about an hundred acres, beyond which is a rising ground terminated by a grove of noble forest trees. On the east side the view embraces the hamlet of Grimsthorpe, with the lordship of Edenham.

Spa. Edenham Spa was much frequented many years ago, by asthmatic and consumptive persons; but as the last Duke of Ancaster was not pleased with seeing many persons about his castle it fell into disuse. The country around Grimsthorpe abounds with that inequality of surface, that diversified interchange of hill and dale, wood and lawn, which constitute the picturesque in natural scenery. This noble estate descended to the late lord Gwydir, by right of his wife, Priscilla Barbara Elizabeth Lindsey, Baroness Willoughby De Eresby daughter and co-heir of Perigrine, Duke of Ancaster.

Abbey. In the park, about a mile from the present mansion, formerly stood a Cistertian abbey, founded by William, earl of Albemarle, about the year 1451. It was called Vallis Dei and vulgarly Vaudy. Gilbert de Gamb was a great benefactor, and Ganfred de Brachecurt gave the whole of his estate at Brachecurt to it, upon condition that the monks should maintain himself and his wife with two servants in all necessaries so long as they both should live, with the additional proviso, that they should have double allowance. Three or four large sculptured stones are all that now remain of this religious edifice.

Gunby. The village of GUNBY is situated on the borders of Leicestershire, at the distance of about

two miles south-westward from Coltersworth. The living is a rectory united in 1773 to that of Stainby, and is rated in the king's books at £4 1s. 2d. The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas. In 1821, this parish contained 29 houses, and 149 inhabitants. CHAP. II.

IRNHAM is situated at the distance of about two miles and a half north-east from Corby. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £13 13s. 9d. On the north side of the chancel has been a very ancient monument with a canopy, but without inscription or arms. In the body of the church is a slab inlaid with brass, in memory of Andrew Luttrell of Irnham, who died September the 6th, 1390. Irnham.

The manor of Irnham was one of the fifteen manors in the county of Lincoln, bestowed by William the Conqueror on Ralph de Paganel, or Paynell, in whose male descendants it continued until the year 1220, when it passed to Sir Andrew Luttrell, knight, son of Sir Godfrey Luttrell, who married Trecethinta, daughter and heir of William Paynell, of Hoton Paynell, whose grandson, Sir Robert Luttrell, was summoned to Parliament, as Baron of Irnham, 23 Ed. I., A. D. 1298. The manor continued in his line until the year 1419, when Sir Geoffrey Luttrell, seventh baron of Irnham, dying without issue, it devolved by the marriage of his sister and heir, Hawisia, to Sir Geoffrey Hilton, knight, who died in 1460. His son Godfrey, dying in 1472, left an only daughter, Elizabeth Hilton, who became the wife of Richard Thimelby, of Polham, whose descendants possessed the estate, till about the year 1700, when the right line once more failing on the death of Mary, only surviving daughter and heir of Sir John Thimelby, and widow of Thomas Gifford of Chillington, in the county of Stafford, Esq., who devised it by will to her cousin, Benedict Conquest, Esq., of Houghton Conquest in the county of Bedford, whose ancestor, Richard Conquest, had married Elizabeth Thimelby, Lady of the bed-chamber to Henrietta Maria, queen of Charles I. Manor.

Benedict Conquest, Esq., dying 27th October 1753, left an only daughter, Mary Christina, who 31st May, 1763, married Henry, eighth lord Arundell, of Wardour, who died 4th December, 1808; having had two daughters and co-heirs; Maria Christina, married to her cousin, James Everard, afterwards ninth lord Arundell; and Eleanora, the wife of Charles, the seventh lord Clifford of Chudleigh, who is now the possessor of Irnham, by virtue of the will of the Dowager Lady Arundell, who died in June, 1813.

The mansion house of Irnham is recorded by Leland in his Itinerary, to have been built by Richard Thimelby, Esq., who became possessed of the estates on his marriage with Elizabeth, the heiress of Godfrey Hilton; and died in 1531. It is substantially built of stone, in the form of the letter L, facing the south and east. On the eastern front, a porch of more modern date than the Tudor arch of the doorway, gives admittance into the ample and lofty hall, open to the roof, 52 feet 10 inches, by 29 feet 3 inches. On the three sides of which runs a gallery of communication to the apartments of the first floor; the walls of which are hung with a numerous series of family portraits of individuals of the families of Thimelby, Markham, Conquest, and others; among which may be distinguished the following. Mansion House.

1st, A fine full length of Thomas Darcy, first lord Darcy, of Chich, Lord Chamberlain to king Edward VI., A.D. 1551, by *Gerbicius Flick*.

2nd. A whole length of Thomas Savage. first earl Rivers.

3rd, John Thimelby, Esq., last of his name, by *Joseph Michael Wright*, A. D. 1688.

4th, Benedict Conquest, Esq., by *Romney*.

5th, Henry, eighth lord Arundell, by *Romney*.

6th, Maria Christina, wife of the Right Honourable Lord Arundell, by *Romney*.

7th, A portrait exquisitely wrought in Tapestry, of Sir Francis Crane, who established a manufactory of Tapestry at Chelsea, in the reign of king James the first. And

8th, St. George and the Dragon of the same manufactory.

In the chapel are:

A Crucifixion, by *Murillo*, and

An Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, by *Francis Solimena*.

An ivory crucifix, is also religiously preserved here, which the constant tradition in the family asserts to have been the very same held by Mary Queen of Scots at her execution.

In 1821, the parish of Irnham contained 30 houses, and 375 inhabitants.

Lavington. The village of LAVINGTON, or LINTON, is distant about five miles to the north-east of Corby. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £14 7s. 1d. Sir Gilbert Heathcote, bart., was patron in 1824. The church is dedicated to St Peter. According to the returns of 1821, this parish, with the township of Osgodby, and the hamlets of Hanby, and Keisby, contained 341 inhabitants.

Skillington. SKILLINGTON is situated on the borders of Leicestershire, at the distance of about three miles north-westward from Coltersworth. The church, dedicated to St. James, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £4 19s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the dean and chapter of Lincoln cathedral. According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained at that period 67 houses, and 364 inhabitants.

Stainby. The little village of STAINBY is situated on the borders of Leicestershire, about two miles south-westward from Coltersworth. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a rectory, rated at £6 6s. 8d., and is in the patronage of the earl of Harborough. In 1821, the parish contained 28 houses, and 158 inhabitants.

Swayfield. SWAYFIELD is situated at the distance of about one mile and a half to the south of Corby. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £11 2s. 11d., and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821, this parish contained 41 houses, and 206 inhabitants.

Swinstead. The village of SWINSTEAD is distant about one mile and a half south-eastward from Corby. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £6 19s. 7d., and is in the patronage of the crown. According to the returns made to parliament in 1821, this place contained 54 houses, and 319 inhabitants.

Witham-on-the-Hill. WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL is situated at the distance of about four miles westward from the town of Bourn. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £6 1s. In 1821, this place, with the hamlets of Manthorpe, Toft, and Lound, contained 44 houses, and 246 inhabitants.

North Witham. The village of NORTH WITHAM is distant about two miles to the south of Coltersworth. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £6 19s. 2d. Lebthorpe is a hamlet belonging to this parish. In 1821, this place contained 35 houses, and 174 inhabitants.

South Witham

South Witham, on the borders of Rutlandshire, is distant about one mile and a half southward from North Witham. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £3 12s. 11d. Here was formerly a preceptory of Knights Templars, founded as early as the year 1164, to which Margaret Percy, and Hubert de Rie were munificent benefactors. It came afterwards to the Knights Hospitallers, as a part of their possessions, called the Great Temple, was granted in 1562, to Stephen Holford. The edifice stood about a mile northward of the village, and its site is now called Temple Hill, at the foot of which runs the river Witham, which has its source scarcely half a mile from the spot. The foundations of the buildings only remain, and they extend over several acres.* In 1821, the parish of South Witham contained 59 houses, and 345 inhabitants.

* Originally the Knights Templars endured much from extreme poverty, a fact sufficiently indicated by the emblem on their seal of two men riding on one horse. In the reign of Henry II., however, they had so rapidly emerged from this state of destitution, as to be possessed of fifteen thousand manors.

CHAP. III.

GRANTHAM TOWN AND SOKE.

Grantham Soke.

GRANTHAM SOKE is bounded on the north by Winnibriggs and Threo Wapentakes, in a very irregular manner, many of the parishes being cut off and completely insulated by the adjoining Wapentakes. On the east it is bounded by Winnibriggs and Threo, and Beltisloe Wapentakes; on the west it is bounded by Leicestershire, but extends to Belvoir Castle.

This soke contains the borough and market town of Grantham, and the villages of Barkston, Belton, Braceby, Colterswotth, Denton, Great Gonerby, Harlaxton, Londonthorpe, Great Ponton, Sapperton, and Stoke Rochford.

Grantham.

GRANTHAM, a borough and market town, is situated on the side of the river Witham, on the ancient Roman road, called Ermine Street, and appears to have been a strong Roman station; it is the principal place in the soke or wapentake, to which it gives name, and over which it exercises exclusive jurisdiction.

In Stowe's Chronicle, Grantham is said to have been built by Gorbomannus, king of Britain, three hundred and three years prior to the Christian æra. Such stories are entitled to little credit; but it appears from history, that Grantham possessed peculiar privileges at an early period, and was the residence of a suffragan bishop.*

Canute coined money at Grantham; a [illegible] penny of this king's, with the mint mark "GRIM: ON: [illegible]," was [illegible] collection of other coins, near Lancaster, on the 12th of February, 1818.†

At the time of the Norman Survey, this place was held in royal demesne; for in Domesday book it is recorded, that Editha, Queen of Edward the Confessor, had a manor in Grantham, and twelve carucates at Geld. Maud, William the Conqueror's queen, held the town and soke as part of the king's demesne. In the forty second year of king Henry III., that monarch being greatly distressed by the parliament, which refused to grant him supplies, among other plans for raising money, mortgaged, to his uncle, William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, the towns of Grantham and Stamford.

Castle.

Near the point, where a small stream, called the Mowbeck, joins the Witham, formerly stood the castle, but no traces of the building remains, and the only evidence that the town

* This ecclesiastical officer was appointed to assist the bishop of the diocese, and called by Sir Edward Coke, "a bishop's vicegerent."

† Archæologia, Vol. xviii. p. 190.



had a castle, arises from the adjoining street being called Castlegate; and the description in ancient deeds of certain tenements, which belonged to the chantry of St. Mary, as situated in Castle Dyke. The names of the three other principal streets of the present town, called Westgate, Watergate, and Swinegate, evidently denote that Grantham was once encompassed with a wall, but no vestiges of it are now to be seen. CHAP. III.

Reception of Margaret, daughter of Henry VII.

In the year 1503, Margaret, daughter of Henry the seventh, having been affianced to James, King of Scotland, she departed from London for the court of Scotland, attended by a numerous retinue of nobles. On her way the princess passed through Grantham, where her reception is thus described by Leland.*

"About foure Myles from Grauntham, the Alderman, accompanyed with the Bourgesses and Inhabitants of Grauntham, in fayre Order, receyved hyr to the number of four score horses honnestly appoynted, and conveyed hir to the towne.

Without the sayd towne, was the processyon in fayre order, the colledge of the sayd place, and the Freres Mendicants the wich receyved hyr in synging Laudes. And att the sayd place lightyd of his horse my lord the Bishop of Norwich; the wich gaff her the Crossys for to kysse. And thus was doon continually, lasting the sayd veyage thorough the Reyme of Englaunde, in all the places wher she cam.

This doon she was brought with the said Compayne in fayr Aray to hyr Lodgyngs, that was with a Gentylman called Mr. Hioll.

Through all the goode Townes and Villages where she past, all the Bells wer rong dayly. And by the way cam the habitants of the countrey for to see the noble company, bryngyng greate vessels full of Drynk, and gyffing the same to them that Nedde had of it, saying, that if better they had had, better they should have brought.

The next day after, being Sounday, the 9th day of the monneth of Jully, she abode all the day in the sayde towne of Grauntham.

The Xth day of the sayd monneth, the said quene departed from Grantham, hyr Company in fayre order, and the sayd Alderman, and with him the Bourgesses and Habitants conveyed hyr by the space of 3 myles, and then took ther Lycence.

A myle from Grauntham was semled the company of Sheryf of the countye of Lincoln, well drest, all on horseback to the number of XXX horses, the wich were presented by the sayd Sir Robert Dymock to the said Quene, for to do hyr service, and conveyde hyr to Newerke."

Grantham taken.

On the 22nd of March, 1642, this town was taken, for King Charles the first, by the forces under the command of Colonel Charles Cavendish, who made three hundred and sixty of the parliamentarians prisoners, with all the captains and officers, together with three loads of arms and ammunition, and afterwards demolished the works.†

Skirmish.

In the year 1643, Oliver Cromwell, at the head of his own regiment, defeated twenty-four troops of the royalist cavalry. Writing upon this subject, De Foe says, "About this time it was that we began to hear of the name of Oliver Cromwell, who, like a little cloud, rose

* Collections. Vol. iv. p. 268.

† Mercurius Belgicus.

BOOK V. out of the east, and spread first into the north, till it shed down a flood that overwhelmed the three kingdoms. When the war first broke out, he was a private captain of horse, but now commanded a regiment; and joining with the Earl of Manchester, the first action in which we heard of his exploits, and which emblazoned his character, was at Grantham, where, with only his own regiment, he defeated twenty four troops of horse and dragoons of the king's service."* Of his success in this skirmish, Cromwell gives a graphic account in the following letter to one of his friends:

"Sir,

God hath given us this evening a glorious victory over our enemies. They were, as we are informed, one and twenty colours of horse troops, and three or four of dragoons; it was late in the evening when we drew out; they came and faced us within two miles of the town. So soon as we heard the alarm, we drew out our forces, consisting of about twelve troops, whereof some of them were so poor and broken, that you shall seldom see worse; with this handful it pleased God to cast the scale, for after we had stood a little above musket shot, the one body from the other, and the dragooner's having fired on both sides for the space of half an hour or more, they not advancing towards us, we agreed to charge them; and advancing the body after many shots on both sides, come with our troops at a pretty round trot, they standing firm to receive us, and our men charging fiercely upon them, they were immediately routed, and ran all away, and we had the execution two or three miles. I believe some of our soldiers did kill two or three men a piece; we have also gotten some of their officers, and some of their colours; but what the number of dead is, or what the prisoners, for the present we have not time to enquire into.

OLIVER CROMWELL.

Municipal Government. Grantham was first incorporated under a charter granted by king Edward IV., A. D. 1463. The town is governed by an alderman, a recorder, twelve common burgesses, a coroner, an escheator, twelve second men, who are the common council, and six constables. The arms of the borough are: *Chequey or and azure, within a border sable, charged with eight trefoils slipped argent.* The jurisdiction of the corporation extends over the whole soke, and the general sessions of the peace for the town and soke, are held by warrant of the alderman, directed to the bailiff of the liberties, who acts as sheriff of the town and soke, the sheriff of the county having no authority within this district. The freedom of the borough is inherited by birth, and acquired by servitude, gift of the corporation, or by purchase; in the last mode a non-resident pays twice as much as a resident. The corporation hold a court of record every Monday, under the charter of James the first, for the recovery of debts not exceeding £40, at which the alderman and the recorder preside.

Representative History. This borough first received the elective franchise in the 7th Edward IV., since which time it has continued to return two members to parliament. Under the late Reform Bill the

* Memoirs of a Cavalier.

* Russel's Life of Oliver Cromwell, Vol. i. p 121-2. 1829.

boundaries of this borough were arranged as follows: parish of Grantham, and the part of Somerby between Grantham and the High Dyke. CHAP III.

Feb. 4th 1580. A report being made to the house that Mr. Arthur Hall.* (a member of this house) had been guilty of issuing from the press a libel, charging some of the particular good members of this Hon. House, with DRUNKENNESS; *as being accompanied in their councils with* BACCHUS, and various other slanderous, and derogatory abuse. Petitions, &c.

Resolved, "That the said Arthur Hall, be forthwith sent for by the Sergeant at arms, to make his appearance here, and also for the printer of the said libel," and further

Resolved, "Should the said Arthur Hall attempt to withdraw himself from the vigilance of the Sergeant at arms, that it be an instruction to any member of this House, who should first happen to see, or meet the said delinquent; to seize and bring him forth to answer the charges exhibited against him, with all possible speed.

The said Mr. Hall, the printer, scrivener and others connected in setting forth the said libel, having been examined by Mr. Vice-Chamberlain, &c., and the report thereon being made,

14th, Mr. Hall was brought to the bar, he submitted himself to the House, refusing to make any answer or defence, but acknowledged his error, and prayed pardon of the House.

Resolved, "That he should be committed to the prison of the Tower, and remain there six months: and as much longer till he should willingly make a retraction of the said libel to the satisfaction of this house," and

Resolved, "That a fine of 500 marks be assessed to her Majesty's use, upon the said Mr. Hall."

Resolved, "That the said Mr. Hall should be severed and cut off from being a member of this House any more, during the continuance of this parliament, and that Mr. Speaker should direct a new warrant for awarding a new writ, in lieu of the said Arthur Hall," and further

Resolved, "That the said slanderous libel should and shall be held, deemed, taken, and judged to be utterly false, and erroneous, and that the same shall be publicly testified, affirmed, and set forth, to be false, seditious, and erroneous."

May 18th 1660, Mr. Turner reported the case upon the double return for this borough.

Resolved, "That John Newton, esq., is duly elected"—to which the House agreed.

March 16th 1677. A petition of Sir William Ellis, bart., complaining of an undue return of Sir Robert Markham, bart.

May 23rd, 1678. The same petition was again presented,

Sir Thomas Mures reported from the committee to which the petitions were referred.

Resolved, "That Sir Robert Markham is not duly elected."

"That Sir William Ellis is duly elected,"—which resolution being read twice—the first was disagreed to; and

* Mr. Arthur Hall was M. P. for Grantham, 1580; he was of a very ancient Lincolnshire family. He translated the 10 first books of the Iliad, from the French of Hughes de Salel, Abbé de St. Cheron; which book was published in London, in 4to., by Ralph Newberrie, in 1581: it is a book of extreme rarity. *Lodge's Illustrations, Vol. ii. p. 8.*

BOOK V.

Resolved, "That Sir Robert Markham is duly elected a burgess for this borough."

May 30, 1685. A petition of John Newton, esq., touching the election for this borough.

June 3. A petition of Sir William Ellis to the same effect.

No report appears.

Jan. 5, 1697. A petition of the inhabitants of this borough against the return of Sir John Thorold, bart., by means of bribery, &c.

No determination.

Dec. 1, 1710. A petition of Sir John Thorold, bart., against the return of the marquis of Granby, by means of undue practices.

Jan. 11, 1711. The petitioner's counsel insisted that the right of election is "in the freemen of the borough, not receiving alms or weekly collections."

For lord Granby, it was insisted "that this was a borough by prescription, and that the freemen *receiving* alms and charity, had a right to vote."

Resolved, "That the right of election of members to serve in parliament for the said borough, is in the freemen of the said borough, not receiving alms or charity."

"That the lord marquis of Granby is not duly elected."

"That Sir John Thorold, bart., is duly elected a burgess to serve for this borough; which resolutions being twice read, were agreed to by the House."

Political Character previous to the Reform Bill.

This borough was generally influenced in the return of their members by the Duke of Rutland and Lord Brownlow, and the ancestors of those noblemen ever since the restoration in 1660. These united interests were opposed in 1802, by Sir William Manners, who had a great estate near the town, and who had purchased nearly all the houses in the borough. After a very expensive contest of three days, the election terminated when the poll stood for

Sir W. E. Welby	434
Edward Thoroton, Esq.	434
John Manners, Esq.	406
Hon. A. B. Danvers.............	389

The two first were supported by the Duke of Rutland and lord Brownlow, and the two latter by Sir William Manners.

Previous to this election it had been customary for the voters to receive two guineas from each candidate; at this election the price rose to *ten guineas.*

The borough continued to be contested from 1802 till 1812, when lord Brownlow, having sold his property in Grantham to Sir William Manners, and the Duke of Rutland agreeing to withdraw his influence, and to discontinue all further interference in the elections at this place, on condition of being permitted to sport over the extensive manors of Sir William Manners, it was imagined that Sir William would unite the entire political influence, with the immense property he possessed in the town and its neighbourhood. The corporation however, who have the power of making an unlimited number of non-resident freemen, could, at any time counteract the influence of property, and this body espousing the interest of Sir William Earl Welby, one of the old members, a compromise took place for that time, and the corporation and Sir William Manners returned each a member.

The living comprises the united vicarages of North and South Grantham; the former, with the vicarages of Great Gonerby and Londonthorpe, is rated in the kings books at £19 4s. 7d., and the latter, with the vicarages of Braceby and Little Gonerby, at £17 15s. 7½d.: they are in the alternate patronage of the prebendaries of North and South Grantham in the cathedral church of Salisbury, and were granted to that church by a charter of bishop Osmond, dated the 5th of April, 1091, at Hastings; where it was confirmed by William Rufus, in the fourth year of his reign. The want of houses for the residence of the vicar was supplied by the pious bequest of bishop Saunderson, and the two vicarages, with their profits, were consolidated in 1714, under the name of "the united vicarage of Grantham." In the present church, and in that of St. Peters were five chantries, respectively dedicated to Corpus Christi, St. John, St. George, the Blessed Virgin, and the Holy Trinity. The two latter of which were given by king Edward VI., for the further endowment of the free school.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Wulfran, is a very beautiful stone structure, consisting of a nave with spacious north and south aisles, and lighted by large handsome pointed windows: this edifice is also greatly admired for the extreme elegance of its spire. At what time the present church was built is not recorded. The style of architecture is that prevalent in the thirteenth century, though Mr. Gough observes, that it was endowed by Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, in the year 1100. The crypt under the south aisle of the church, now used as a charnel house, is the most ancient part of the building, and probably formed part of the former church, which was endowed as above described. The church underwent considerable repairs in 1628, the estimates of which amounted to £1450. In the year 1651 the top of the steeple was blown down, and rebuilt by subscription, as appears by a table, containing a list of benefactors on that occasion, placed in the church. In 1797 it suffered by lightning, which displaced a stone on the south side, and broke of two or three of the crockets, which fell through the roof into the church. This elegant part of the fabric consists of a quadrangular tower,* containing three stories, the first of which is lighted by one mullioned window on each side; the second by pairs of windows, with pointed arches; and the third by one large window, with two smaller lateral ones, having triangular heads. At each angle of the parapet, which is pierced with quatrefoils, is an hexangular crocketted pinnacle. Over this, in beautiful proportion, rises its octagonal spire, ornamented with crockets on the angles and at three several distances, encircled with windows, having triangular heads. The height of the tower, to the battlements, is 135 feet, and thence to the top of the weathercock 138, making together 273 feet. The nave, or choir as it is called, including the chancel and side aisles, measures in length, inside, 116 feet, and 80 feet in breadth.

Within the church are several handsome monuments to the memory of different families of distinction. One to Sir Thomas Bury, knight, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer in the time of George the first—A sumptuous marble monument, with the figure of justice, and a medallion, representing Sir Dudley Rider, Lord Chief Justice of the Kings Bench

* This tower is unfortunately, much disfigured, the staircase, which stands in one corner, being an octagonal projection on the outside; and there are no projections on the other three corners to answer it.

BOOK V. who died May 5th 1756, a day before the patent could pass by a warrant issued for the purpose of creating him Baron Harrowby. A magnificent monument, consisting of a pyramid of blue marble, and a sarcophagus of white, and a bust ornamented with various naval trophies, with the arms of Cust, to the memory of William Cust, esq., "a brave and judicious sea officer, who having signalized himself in a series of dangerous and successful enterprises, was unfortunately killed by a cannon ball, March 8th 1747; erected by his uncle, the late Right Honourable Viscount Tyrconnel." The interior of this church is fitted up very handsomely, and contains a fine toned organ, with a double front. The tower contains ten good musical bells.

The font in this church is a handsome specimen of ancient sculpture. It stands upon a pedestal of two steps. The shape is octangular. The base of the shaft is ornamented with heads and alternate roses. On the shaft are statues of various saints placed in niches; and round the font, under crooketted canopies, many figures in basso relievo. These are intended to represent the seven sacraments.*

The vestry has been fitted up to receive a large number of books, which were left by the will of the Rev. John Newcombe, D. D., master of St, John's College, Cambridge. He was a native of Grantham, and beqeathed them as a public library, for the use of the inhabitants in the town and neighbourhood.

Vicarage House. The vicarage house, pleasantly situated towards the north-west of the church was rebuilt in 1788, under the act of parliament for encouraging the building of parsonage houses, and on part of the site of the old vicarage house. An addition of nearly an acre of land was made to the premises, by an exchange with the prebendaries of North and South Grantham, under the Spittlegate Inclosure Act, which passed in 1785.

Catholic Chapel. The Catholic chapel, recently erected in this town, is a very handsome building, reflecting equal credit on the liberality of that class of our fellow subjects, and the taste of the architect employed by them. In May, 1834, a large fine toned bell was placed in the elegant dome, with which the building is surmounted, and was rung for the first time on Sunday the 18th day of that month, (Whit-Sunday,) to announce the celebration of mass.

Chapels. In this town are places of worship belonging to the Huntingtonians, Independents and Wesleyan Methodists.

Guildhall. The Guildhall was rebuilt under an act obtained for the purpose in the year 1787, by a rate levied upon the soke; in addition to which the Duke of Rutland and Lord Brownlow gave each £300, to erect a large apartment for the occasional accommodation of the corporation, and to serve as an assembly room for the use of the town.

Theatre. The Theatre, a neat brick building, is occasionally opened, when a small, but talented company perform during a few weeks.

Cross. Near the south entrance into the town on St. Peter's† Hill, formerly stood an elegant cross, erected by king Edward the first, in memory of Eleanor his queen, who died in

* This font has been engraved in the Archæologia, to illustrate Goughs account of ancient fonts.

† "Of the church, dedicated to St. Peter, said to have stood here, I have not been able to find any traces, except the mention made of the chantry of St. Peter in Grantham."—*Turnor's Collections.*

1290, this being one of the places where the corpse was laid in state, in its way for interment in Westminster Abbey. CHAP. III.

Franciscan Priory.

The priory of Franciscans, since known by the name of the Grange, or Cistertius place, was founded in 1290, and was pleasantly situated on the west side of the town. The possessions of this house were given to Robert Bocher, gent., and David Vincent, one of the pages of the bedchamber to Henry VIII., soon after the dissolution of monasteries. The house was pulled down in the beginning of the present century, by order of Sir William Manners, bart., its then proprietor. Besides this priory, Grantham had several other religious houses, the remains of which may still be seen.

Angel Inn.

The Angel Inn, which took its name from some representations of angels cut in stone, with several other religious devices about the building, was a commandery of the knights Templars. The front of this inn displays some curious grotesque ornament, and has three projections, with mullioned windows, &c.*

A little to the south-west of the Angel Inn was formerly a beautiful stone oratory, with scripture representations in bas relief, the ceiling of stone, carved. It was taken down between, thirty and forty years ago, but different views of it were engraved by Mr. John Carter for his large work.

Grammar School.

The Free Grammar School was founded in 1528, by Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester, who endowed it with the revenues of two chantries, which, prior to the dissolution belonged to the church of St. Peter, the endowment having been subsequently augmented by Edward VI. The annual income exceeds £700, the surplus of which after payment of the salaries to the masters, is appropriated to the establishment of exhibitions to Oxford and Cambridge, to which all scholars who have been two years in the school are eligible. Sir Isaac Newton, received the rudiments of his education in this school.

Charity Schools.

A Charity School for girls was founded by Mr. Hurst; and a Lancastrian school for boys and another for girls, are supported by subscriptions. There are some alms-houses, and various charitable bequests for the relief of the poor.

Trade.

There is no manufacture of any consequence except a paper-mill: the trade is principally in malt, corn, and coal, of which large supplies are sent to the chief towns in the adjoining counties.

The town is well paved, and as lately been much improved by the introduction of gas.

Canal.

The Grantham Canal, commenced in 1793, begins on the eastern side of the town, and passes Harlaxton, the point at the foot of Woolsthorpe Hill, Stainwith, Redmile, Belvoir Vale, Barkstone, Plangar, Harby, Long Clawson to Hickling; thence it passes through Kinmoulton, Colston Basset, Cropwell Bishop, and joins the Trent between Holme Pierrepoint and Radcliffe, in Nottinghamshire. From Grantham to the Trent by this canal is thirty miles, with a fall of 148 feet. The canal is supplied with water by means of large

* The Angel Inn is subject to the payment of forty shillings a year left by Mr. Solomon for a sermon against drunkenness.—"Item, I give to the alderman of Grantham and his successor for ever, a rent charge of 40 shillings a year to be paid out of the Angel Inn in Grantham aforesaid every Michaelmas day, upon this trust, that he procure some able divine to preach a sermon in the afternoon the Sunday after every alderman's choicefor ever, wherein the subject shall be chiefly against drunkenness and then pay the preacher 40 shillings for the same, I looking upon that sin to be the inlet of almost all others."—*Grantham Register.*

reservoirs, made for the purpose. The level line from Grantham to Woolsthorpe Point is supplied by a reservoir which covers twenty-seven acres of land, in the parishes of Denton, and Harlaxton. This is fed by the flood waters of Denton rivulet. The other part of the line, from Woolsthorpe Point to the Trent, is supplied by a reservoir, comprising fifty-two acres, at Knipton. In 1798, the sum of £114,731, had been expended on the undertaking; at which time the tonnage amounted to £1381; since that period it has annually averaged more. The chief articles conveyed by this navigation are corn and coals.

The Spa.

Without Spittlegate, at what is termed Grantham Spa, a salutary spring rises out of sandy ground, the water of which is a mild chalybeate, specifically lighter than common spring water, and containing a small portion of ærated iron.

Market.

The market is on Saturday, and is extensively supplied with corn, and provisions of all sorts; and in every alternate week, there is a large mart for live stock. The fairs are on Monday before Palm Sunday, called Caring fair, for horses, horned cattle, and sheep; on Ascension Day, called Holy Thursday fair, for horses, and sheep; on the 10th of July' St. Peter's day, 26th October, St. Wulfran's day, and 17th December, St. Nicholas's day, for horses and horned cattle.

Grantham gives the title of Baron to the Robinson family.

According to the population returns of 1821, this parish contained 739 houses, and 4118 inhabitants.

Dr. Still.

This town was the native place of Dr. John Still, who held the See of Bath and Wells in the reign of Elizabeth, and who is supposed to have been the author of "Gammer Gurton's Needle," the earliest comedy extant in the English language.

Barkston.

The village of BARKSTON is situated at the distance of about four miles north-eastward from Grantham. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £13 7s. 6d., and is in the patronage of the prebendary of North Grantham, in the cathedral church of Salisbury.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is an elegant gothic building, with a tower, on which is a crocketted spire. The arches which divide the nave from the south aisle are Saxon, with small indented mouldings.

Alms houses.

Richard Hickson, esq., of Gonerby, in this county, devised by his will, dated October 2nd, 1640, that his executor should, within twelve months next after his decease, erect and build an alms-house in Barkston, for the habitation of six poor people. He also gave to William Welby, and J. Newton, and their heirs and assigns, forty three pounds per annum, issuing out of his lands at Greetham, in the county of Rutland, for the use, maintenance, and sustentation of the said six poor people, and their successors for ever, and for the sustaining, upholding and repairing of the said alms-houses. Each poor person must be sixty years of age or more, and an inhabitant of Barkston, Haydor, Aseby, or Culverthorpe, and who have received collection from the town where they lived for one whole year: but should there be no person qualified as above, then his will was that some other person, most aged and poor, living within the said towns, should be elected.

Besides the above charity, there is a school, endowed with a field worth £5 per annum, and a house for the master, for which he is to teach six poor children. This is supposed to have been left by some of the Newton family.

In 1821, this parish contained 81 houses, and 416 inhabitants.

BELTON, situated at the distance of about two miles and a half to the north-eastward of Grantham, is probably one of the prettiest villages in England; a distinction which it owes to the good taste and liberality of earl Brownlow. The living is a rectory rated in the king's books at £12 3s. 6½d. and is in the patronage of the noble lord above named. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a small ancient structure. The tower has on it the date 1637, at which time it was rebuilt by Richard Brownlow, esq. The chancel also was rebuilt by Dame Alicia Brownlow, who died in 1721. The arches of the nave and the font are probably of the 11th century. The church is kept extremely neat, and in the south window are six pieces of modern stained glass, representing portions of scripture history. Within the nave and chancel, are many fine monuments to the memory of the families of Brownlow and Cust. The font is rudely sculptured with figures in compartments; one of which alludes to the name of the place :—Bell-Town.

Belton House.

The estate of Belton, which is very extensive, devolved to Richard Brownlow, esq., who was prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, in the reign of Elizabeth and James the First; the reversions having been purchased of Sir Henry Pakenham and Jane, his wife, in 1620.

The mansion was rebuilt by Sir John Brownlow, the third baronet of this family, that dignity having been granted by Charles II., in 1661, to William Brownlow, esq.; the design was by Sir Christopher Wren, and the building was commenced in the year 1685, and completed in 1689. The form of the building, like many houses of the same period, is that of the letter H; which, though not approved of by modern architects, possesses considerable advantages in point of convenience and utility. The house, built of stone, presents four uniform elevations, without any architectural decorations. The apartments are numerous, lofty, and well proportioned. Several are ornamented with excellent carving by Gibbons, and the chapel is wainscotted with cedar.

In the year 1775, the grandfather of the present lord Brownlow, employed the late James Wyatt, esq., to make improvements in the building. By his direction a cupola and balustrade were removed from the roof; the drawing-room, which measures forty feet by twenty-seven, was raised to the height of twenty-two feet, and a new entrance was added at the south front. In several of the apartments are many good pictures by eminent masters, of the Flemish and Italian schools, with numerous family portraits by Lely, Kneller, Reynolds, Romney, and others. Amongst them is a peculiarly fine one of Sir John Cust, bart., speaker of the House of Commons, in his robes, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; a half length copy of which by Ruyssen, a present of Lord Brownlow, is in the state apartments of the speaker of the House of Commons. The founder of this stately fabric, had the honour of a visit from king William III., who on his progress through the northern counties, was entertained at Belton House, October 29th, 1695. Previous to that event he had obtained, in 1690, a licence of the king and queen, to form a park of his lands in Belton, Londonthorpe, and Telthorpe, which he inclosed with a wall five miles in circumference, and at the same time he made numerous plantations; the trees of which, now become large timber, are highly ornamental to the place. His nephew, Sir John Brownlow, K. B., created in 1718 Viscount Tyrconnel, fitted up the library with a choice and valuable collection of books, and formed gardens of great extent and magnificence, in

BOOK V. the prevailing taste of that age, consisting of straight walks and clipped hedges: these it has been found necessary to alter, and the grounds have received every embellishment that refined taste can confer on the natural beauties of the situation, which partakes both of the beautiful and picturesque, and abounds with a diversified interchange of wood and dale, hill and lawns. In 1754, the estate descended to Sir John Cust, bart., eldest son and heir of Sir Richard Cust, bart., by Ann Brownlow, sister and heir of John, lord viscount Tyrconnel, and father to the late lord Brownlow.

In the neighbourhood of Belton, considerable remains of ancient buildings, tesselated pavements, and other indications of a Roman station have been discovered, through the exertions of lord Brownlow.

Braceby. BRACEBY, a hamlet belonging to Grantham is situated at the distance of seven miles eastward from that town, and about three miles and a half north-westward from Folkingham. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a chapelry belonging to Grantham. This edifice, which is without tower or steeple, is built of stone. The chapel, or aisle north of the chancel, communicates with the chancel by a plain circular arch. The window at the east end is walled up, but the stone mullions prove it to be more ancient than the time of Henry VI., being enriched with beautiful tracery. The exterior cornice of the chapel is curiously wrought with the heads of men, foxes, roses, &c. In 1821, this place contained 23 houses, and 97 inhabitants.

Colsterworth. COLSTERWORTH, at the distance of about eight miles southward from Grantham, is situated in a beautiful valley through which winds the river Witham. In 1821, the parish contained 147 houses, and 703 inhabitants. The living is a rectory rated in the king's books at £14 10s. and is in the patronage of the Prebendary of South Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a handsome stone building with an embattled tower, in good proportion, ornamented with pinnacles. On the south side of the steeple, about five feet from the ground, is this inscription: *Thomas: de: Somerbi: &: Fill:* 1305. The arches on the south side of the nave are Anglo Norman; but all the others are pointed. There has been a north aisle to the chancel, which was almost entirely rebuilt at the expense of the rector in 1770. Colsterworth was made a post town when the turnpike road was completed, about the year 1752. The street through which the great north road passes, is long, very narrow, and inconvenient for carriages. The manor house is close to the road on the west side of the street.

Woolsthorpe. WOOLSTHORPE is a hamlet to Colsterworth, from which it is distant about half a mile to the westward. The hamlet consists of the manor house, a few small farm houses, and some thatched cottages; one of which was formerly a chapel of ease to Colsterworth; it is forty-three feet long. The chancel is separated from the nave by a zig-zag Norman arch, four feet wide. There is also remaining a small gothic window at the east end. Human bones have been dug up near the walls.

Sir Isaac Newton. The manor house at this hamlet, was the birth-place of the immortal Sir Isaac Newton. The house stands in a pretty little hollow, on the west side of the valley of the river Witham, which rises at a short distance. This was the paternal estate of Newton, and here he was brought up and educated by his widowed mother.

"Every memorial of so great a man," says Dr. Brewster, in his *Life of Newton*, has been

preserved and cherished with peculiar veneration.* His house at Woolsthorpe has been religiously protected by Mr. Turnor of Stoke Rochford, the proprietor. Dr. Stukeley, who visited it in Sir Isaac's life time, on the 13th of October, 1721, gives the following description of it in his letter to Dr. Mead, written in 1727: "'Tis built of stone, as is the way of the country hereabouts, and a reasonable good one. They led me up stairs and showed me Sir Isaac's study, where I suppose he studied when in the country in his younger days, or perhaps when he visited his mother from the university. I observed the shelves were of his own making, being pieces of deal boxes, which probably he sent his books and clothes down in, on those occasions. There were some years ago, two or three hundred books in it of his father in law, Mr. Smith, which Sir Isaac gave to Dr. Newton of our town."—

"When the house was repaired in 1798," continues Dr. Brewster, "a tablet of white marble was put up by Mr Turnor in the room where Sir Isaac was born, with the following inscription:"—

"Sir Isaac Newton, son of John Newton, Lord of the manor of Woolsthorpe, was born in this room on the 25th December, 1642."

"The following lines have been written upon the house:"—

"Here Newton dawned, here lovely wisdom woke,
And to a wondering world divinely spoke,
If Tully glowed, Phædrus's steps he trode,
Or fancy formed philosophy a god;
If sages still for Homer's birth contend
The sons of science at this dome must bend;
All hail the shrine! all hail the natal day,
Cam boasts his noon,—This *Cot* his morning ray."

Having thus briefly described the birth place of Newton we must now give a few particulars of that most illustrious philosopher:

Sir Isaac Newton was born on Christmas Day, 1642. Having made some proficiency in the classics, &c., at the grammar school at Grantham, he (being an only child) was taken home by his mother, who was a widow, to be her company, and to learn the management of his paternal estate: but the love of books and study occasioned his farming concerns to be neglected. In 1660 he was sent to Trinity College, Cambridge: here he began with the study of Euclid, but the propositions of that book being too easy to arrest his attention long, he passed rapidly on to the Analysis of Des Cartes, Kepler's Optics, &c., making occasional improvements on his author, and entering his observations, &c., on the margin. His genius and attention soon attracted the favourable notice of Dr. Barrow, at that time one of the most eminent mathematicians in England, who soon became his steady patron and friend. In 1664 he took his degree of B. A., and employed himself in speculations and experiments on the nature of light and colours, grinding and polishing optic glasses, and opening the way for his new method of fluxions and infinite series. The next year, the plague which raged at Cambridge obliged him to retire to Woolsthorpe; here he laid the foundation of his universal system of gravitation, the first hint of which he received from seeing an apple fall from a tree: and subsequent reasoning induced him to conclude, that the same force which brought down the apple might possibly extend to the moon, and

 retain her in her orbit. He afterwards extended the doctrine to all the bodies which compose the solar system, and demonstrated the same in the most evident manner, confirming the laws which Kepler had discovered, by a laborious train of observation and reasoning; namely, that "the planets move in elliptical orbits," that "they describe equal areas in equal times;" and that the squares of their periodic times are as the cubes of their distances. Every part of natural philosophy not only received improvement by his inimitable touch but became a new science under his hand: his system of gravitation, as we have observed, confirmed the discoveries of Kepler, explained the immutable laws of nature, changed the system of Copernicus from a probable hypothesis to a plain and demonstrated truth, and effectually overturned the vortices and other imaginary machinery of Des Cartes, with all the improbable epicycles, deferents, and clumsy apparatus, with which the ancients, and some of the moderns had encumbered the universe. In fact, his *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica* contains an entirely new system of philosophy, built on the solid basis of experiment and observation, and demonstrated by the most sublime Geometry; and his treatises and papers on optics supply a new theory of light and colours. The invention of the reflecting telescope, which is due to Mr. James Gregory, would in all probability have been lost, had not Newton interposed, and by his great improvements brought it forward into public notice.

In 1667, Newton was chosen fellow of his College, and took his degree of M. A. Two years after, his friend Dr. Barrow resigned to him the mathematical chair; he became a member of parliament in 1688; and through the interest of Mr. Montagu, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had been educated with him at Trinity College, our author obtained, in 1696, the appointment of Warden, and three years after that of Master of the Mint; in 1671, he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society; in 1699, member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris; and in 1703, President of the Royal Society, a situation which he filled during the remainder of his life, with no less honour to himself than benefit to the interests of science.

In 1705, in consideration of his superior merit, Queen Anne conferred on him the honour of knighthood.

For some years prior to his death, he was troubled with an incontinence of urine. On Saturday morning, March 11, 1727, he read the newspapers, and discoursed a long time with Dr. Mead, his physician, having then the perfect use of all his senses and his understanding; but that night he lost them all, and not recovering them afterwards, died on the Monday following, March 20, 1727, in his 85th year.

This illustrious philosopher's illness was supposed to be occasioned by a stone in the bladder, which at times was attended with such paroxysms of pain, as to cause large drops of sweat to run down his cheeks. During these attacks, he was never heard to utter the least complaint. His corpse lay in state in the Jerusalem Chamber, and on the 28th was conveyed into Westminster Abbey, the lord chancellor, the dukes of Montrose and Roxburg, and the earls of Pembroke, Sussex and Macclesfield, holding up the pall. He was interred near the entrance into the choir on the left hand, where a stately monument is erected to his memory with the following inscription, written by Pope:

ISAACUS NEWTONIUS
Quem Immortalem
Testantur, Tempus, Natura, Cœlum:
Mortalem
Hoc marmor fatetur.

Nature, and Nature's laws, lay hid in night,
God said let Newton be! and all was light!

This grand and expressive monument is every way worthy of the great man to whose memory it was erected, who is recumbent, leaning his right arm on four folios, thus titled, *Divinity*, *Chronology*, *Optics* and *Phil. Prin. Math.*, and pointing to a scroll supported by winged cherubs: over him is a large globe, projecting from a pyramid, whereon is delineated the course of the comet in 1680, with the signs, constellations and planets. On this globe sits the figure of *Astronomy*, with her book closed, and in a very thoughtful, composed and pensive mood. Underneath the principal figure is a most curious bas relief, representing the various labours in which Sir Isaac chiefly employed his time: such as discovering the cause of gravitation, settling the principles of light and colours, and reducing the coinage to a determined standard. The devise of weighing the sun by the steelyard, has been thought at once bold and striking,—and indeed the whole monument does honour to the sculptor.

Sir Isaac Newton was of a middling stature, and somewhat inclined to be corpulent in the latter part of his life. His countenance was pleasing and venerable at the same time, especially when he took off his peruke, and shewed his white hair, which was rather thick. He never made use of spectacles, and lost but one tooth during his whole life. Bishop Atterbury says, that in the whole air of Sir Isaac's face and make, there was nothing of that penetrating sagacity which appears in his compositions; that he had something rather languid in his look and manner, which did not raise any great expectation in those who did not know him. He was of a very mild disposition and a great lover of peace; he would rather have chosen to remain in obscurity, than to have the calm of life ruffled by those storms, which genius and learning always draw upon those that are too eminent for them.

Amidst the great variety of books which he had constantly before him, that which he studied with the greatest application was the "Bible." He did not neglect the opportunities of doing good when the revenues of his patrimony and a profitable employment, improved by a prudent economy, put it in his power. When decency upon any occasion required expense and show, he was magnificent without grudging it, and with a very good grace; at all other times, that pomp, which seems great to low minds only, was utterly retrenched, and reserved for better uses. He never married, and perhaps he never had leisure to think of it. Being immured in profound studies during the prime of his life, and afterwards engaged in an employment of great importance, as well as quite taken up with the company which his celebrity drew to him, he was not sensible of any vacancy of life, nor the want of a companion at home. He left 32,000*l.* at his death, but made no

BOOK V. will, which Fontennelle tells us was because he thought a legacy was no gift. As to his works, besides what were published in his life-time, there were found, after his death, among his papers, several discourses upon the subjects of antiquity, history, divinity, and mathematics. They were collected and published in 1784, with a valuable commentary, in 5 volumes, by the Rev. Dr. Horsley, Bishop of Rochester, afterwards of St. Asaph.

Sir Isaac Newton, a little before he died, said—"I don't know what I may seem to the world; but as to myself, I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the sea shore, and diverting myself now and then by finding a smoother pebble, or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me."

The house in which Sir Isaac lived in St. Martin's St., Leicester Square, is still standing. it is on the east side and very distinguishable, by the observatory on the top.

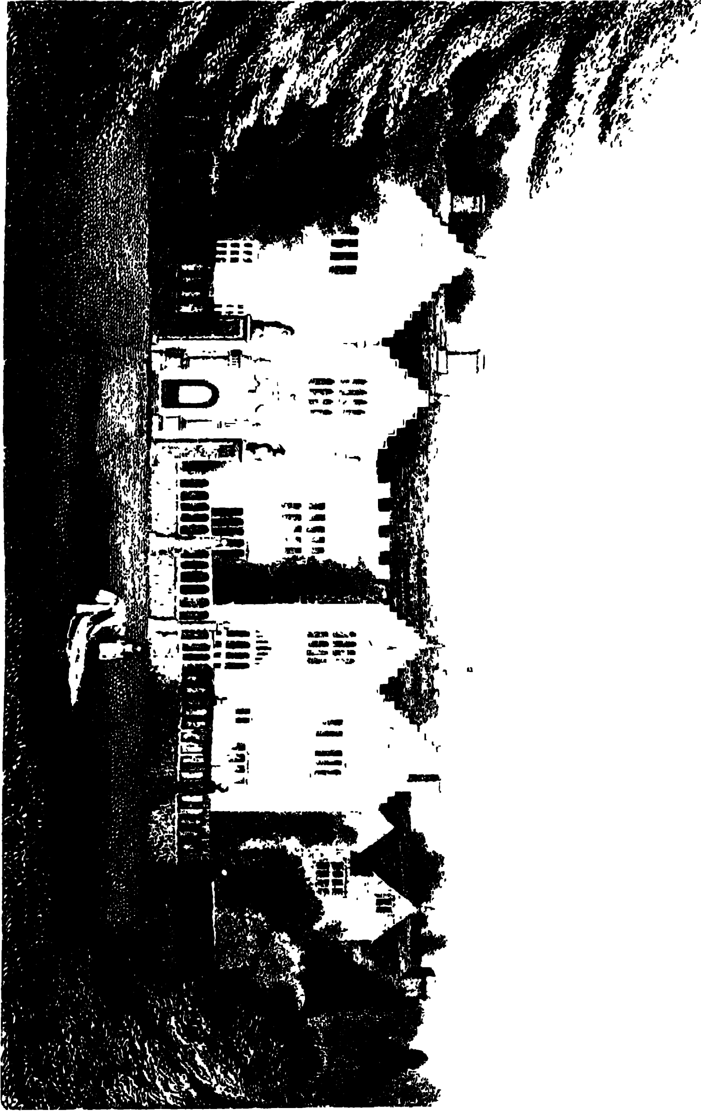
Denton. DENTON, on the borders of Leicestershire, is situated at the distance of about six miles south-westward from Grantham. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £18 8s. 4d., and is in the patronage of the prebendary of North Grantham, in the cathedral church of Salisbury. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small but neat Gothic structure, consisting of a nave, with aisles, a chancel, with a chapel on the north side, a tower, and a south porch. In the north aisle and chapel are numerous monuments of the Welby family.

Alms-houses. An alms-house was erected and endowed by William Welby, esq., in the year 1653, for six poor persons, who have a weekly allowance of one shilling each person, and an annual allowance for coals.

School. Eastward of the church is the charity school, a neat stone building, erected by Mrs. Welby, wife of Richard Welby, esq., who died in 1713. The salary to the master is twelve pounds per annum, for teaching twenty-four children reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Denton House. Denton house is the property and residence of Sir William Earl Welby, bart. The mansion is well situated, standing on a fine elevation; its present appearance is entirely owing to very considerable alterations, and additions made within the last few years. Its interior is well arranged, and contains some good family portraits. The park is much admired for its beautiful undulations; it is adorned with fine woods, and most luxuriant plantations; and the scene is further diversified by water. On the estate is a spring much frequented, from the medicinal virtue ascribed to its waters; it is very pure, and similar to that of Malvern Wells, in Worcestershire: it bears the name of St. Christopher's Well.

The family of Welby is of great antiquity in this county, deriving its name from the manor of Welby, near Grantham, which manor is now the property of Sir William. John, lord of Castleton, ancester of the Welby's, assisted Robert de Todeni, baron of Belvoir, in the defence of his castle, in the time of William the conqueror. In the ninth year of the reign of Henry the fifth, Richard Welby, represented his native county in parliament; and on the twelfth of Henry the sixth, when commissioners were appointed by the crown, in divers counties of England, to summon all persons of quality before them, and tender to them an oath for the better keeping of the peace, and observing the king's law, both in themselves and in their retainers or dependants, we find William Welby the ninth person in the list of those gentry of Lincolnshire, who took the oath. The direct ancestors of the present proprietor have resided at Denton, from the time of Henry the eighth, whence they came from Gedney, near Holbeach, in the Holland division of this county.



In 1727 a mosaic pavement was discovered in Denton fields, extending thirty feet. It lay about eighteen inches beneath the surface; and was composed of white, red, and blue tesselle, forming a pattern which consisted of squares and lozenges. The lozenges were ornamented with chequer work, and the squares with gordian knots. This formed the floor of a room, which Dr. Stukely, who examined the place, supposed was the site of a Roman villa. A view of this pavement was engraved by Mr. Fowler, who discovered part of another pavement eight feet square, composed of similar colours, but of a richer pattern. this is also engraved in his "Collection of Roman pavements," Near this place passes a Roman vicinal way, called Salter's road. CHAP. III. Mosaic pavement.

In the year 1821, the parish of Denton contained 103 houses, and 557 inhabitants.

GREAT GONERBY is distant about two miles to the north of Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. Sebastian, is a vicarage annexed to that of North Grantham. The edifice is a handsome stone building with pointed arches; the tower is embattled, from which rises a beautiful crocketted stone spire. The church contains an altar tomb to the memory of Robert Tyling, who died on the 13th March, 1500 In this village is an ancient building, said to have been at one time a religious house. According to the returns of 1821, this place contained 174 houses, and 743 inhabitants. Great Gonerby.

The village of HARLAXTON is situated at the distance of about three miles to the south west of Grantham. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £25 6s 10½d and is in the alternate patronage of the prebendaries of North and South Grantham, in the cathedral church of Salisbury. The church is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Peter; its tower is surmounted by a spire; and the chancel is separated from the nave by a carved wooden screen.* The Grantham and Nottingham canal passes through the parish. Harlaxton Hall, the seat of the Gregories, is a handsome mansion, rebuilt after a chaste and elegant design, in the early Tudor style, by Salvin, Several fine portraits of the de Ligne and Lister families, executed by Cornelius Jansen, are preserved here. Harlaxton.

In the year 1710, an urn was found here containing burnt bones, and coins of Gallienus a Claudius Gothicus, and of other emperors, with a seal inscribed [illegible] comitatus Cantabridgiae.' In the fields near the village as a man was ploughing [illegible] discovered a stone, and under it a brass pot in which was a helmet of gold, set [illegible]; and also silver beads, and "corrupted writings."† The helmet, supposed to have [illegible] belonged to John of Gaunt, who had a hunting seat here, was presented to Catherine, dowager queen of Henry the eighth, and deposited afterwards in the cabinet of Madrid.

In the year 1821, this parish contained 74 houses, and 389 inhabitants.

Londonthorpe, a hamlet belonging to Grantham, is situated at the distance of about three miles to the north-west of that town. The living is a curacy annexed to the vicarage of Grantham. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is constructed of stone; the porch, south aisle, and chancel are handsomely embattled, and ornamented with light buttresses, on which are rich pinnacles. The arches within are all pointed, and remarkably light. In 1821, this place contained 37 houses, and 195 inhabitants. L.

* A bell is rung every morning at four, and every evening at eight, for which service the clerk has a close of [illegible] acre and a half, called to this day "Day Bell Close," but when or by whom it was left, is unknown

† Leland's Itinerary, Vol. 1. fol. 31.

BOOK V.

Great Ponton. The village of Great Ponton is situated at the distance of about three miles and a half to the south of Grantham. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £11 9s. 7d., and is in the patronage of the prebendary of North Grantham, in the cathedral church of Salisbury. The church, dedicated to the Holy Cross, is a fine building, erected according to Leland, in the year 1519, at the expence of Anthony Ellys, esq., merchant of the staple, who lies interred in the chancel; and whose arms are represented on the different parts of the steeple, with the motto "*Thynke, and thanke God of all.*" It is justly admired for its proportion, it has eight ornamental pinnacles at top, and is seventy-eight-feet high.*

Manor House. Part of the manor house, built by Anthony Ellys is remaining; it is situated a little to the south-west of the church, and in the middle of the village, which abounds with springs of pure water rising out of the rock, and running into the river Witham.

Free School. The free school, founded by William Archer, Esq, for the benefit of the parish, is a neat stone building, west of the high road, and is well endowed with lands, &c. The master is appointed by the lord of the manor.

In this place, and at little Ponton, a neighbouring village, have been found numerous Roman coins, urns, bricks, mosaic pavements, arches, and vaults. Stukeley observes that this "must needs be the Causennis." With this opinion Salmon coincided, and agreed with him to place the OLD PONTEM at East Bridgeford, in Nottinghamshire; but Horsley fixes it at Southwell. Ponton has probably been a station, though it does not appear to fall under any one mentioned in the Itinerary. "The fosse way, partly paved with blue flag-stones laid on edge, runs by this place from Newark to Leicester."†

In 1821, the parish of Great Ponton contained 72 houses and 418 inhabitants.

Sapperton. SAPPERTON, a small village, is situated at the distance of about seven miles to the east-ward of Grantham, and about three miles and a half to the north-west of Folkingham. The living is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £5 9s. 9½d. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is constructed of stone, with a stone steeple at the west end. On the north side of the chancel is an arch built up, which probably communicated with a side chapel or oratory; and there has also been a north aisle to the nave, the arches of which are still visible in the wall.

Here was formerly a large stone mansion house, erected by a family named Saunders. The principal floor consisted of a handsome saloon, with a grand double staircase at the end. It is said to have cost £15,000, although never completed. The house was taken down by Richard Welby, Esq., who died in 1713.‡

In 1821 this parish contained 14 houses, and 55 inhabitants.

Stoke Rochford. SOUTH STOKE, or STOKE ROCHFORD, is distant about two miles to the north of Colster-

* Mr. Ellys the builder is reported to have sent his wife a cask, inscribed "Calais sand," without any further mention of its contents. On his return to Ponton, he asked what she had done with it, and found she had put it in the cellar; he then acquainted her that it contained the bulk of his riches; with which, being issueless, they mutually agreed to build a church, in thanksgiving to God for having prospered them in trade.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. ii. p. 250.

‡ Turnor's Collections, p 79.

worth. The living is a rectory, rated at £9 5s., and is in the patronage of the prebendary of South Grantham, in the cathedral of Salisbury. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew and St. Mary, serves for the parishes of Stoke Rochford, North Stoke, and Easton. Bishop Saunderson describes it as fair and well built, having "a chancel with three quires and goodly windows,* and sundry monuments." A handsome marble monument records the ancestors of the Turnor family, proprietors of this place; and a very elegant throne, with four kneeling figures in the habit of the times, was erected here by Montagu Cholmeley, Esq., in the year 1641; a descendant of whom, of the same name, has a mansion in the hamlet of Easton. On a brass plate, fixed on a marble slab, in the floor of the chancel, is this inscription:

"Pray for the soll of mastyr Olyr-Sentsehn, squier, sonne unto ye right excellent hye and mightty pryncess of Som˜sete g˜ndame unto ou˜ sovey˜n Lord Kynge Herre the VII. and for the soll of dame Elizabeth Bygod his wiff, whoo dep˜ted from this t˜nsitore liffe ye xii daye of June, i ye year of ou' Lord M,CCCCC and III."

The family of St. John, ancestors of the Bolingbrokes, was connected by marriage with that of Rochford, and formerly resided here.

Antiquities.

Dr. Stukeley says the Romans were particularly fond of Stoke; it is probable there have been mosaic pavements, for the Rev. Edward Vernon, rector of Muston, in 1670, viewed the Roman ruins here, and gathered several of the bricks. Coins have been frequently ploughed up.

Mr. Conduit says that Sir Isaac Newton came to a day school at Stoke.

Alms-houses.

A handsome stone building in this village, containing six sets of apartments for six poor persons, who have a weekly allowance in money, and an annual allowance for coals, was erected and endowed in the year 1677, by Sir Edmund Turnor; no less eminent for his loyalty, than he was exemplary for his charities. He took part with Charles I., and in the year 1651, he was captain of horse, and taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester. As a reward for his services, he was appointed to several lucrative offices, and knighted in the year 1663.

In the year 1821, this parish contained 13 houses, and 94 inhabitants.

Stoke House.

Stoke House, the residence of Edmund Turnor, esq., was built in the year 1764 out of materials belonging to an old mansion house, erected by Sir Edmund Turnor, about the middle of the seventeenth century. The park is small, but abounds with picturesque beauties, and in it is a pleasing small cascade, formed by the water of a single spring.†

Easton.

EASTON is a township or hamlet within the parish of Stoke Rochford, and had formerly a chapel of ease belonging to the parish church of Stoke. It may be proper to observe that Stoke church and the rectory house, are both in the hamlet of Easton.

Easton Hall.

Easton Hall, the seat of Sir Montagu John Cholmeley, bart., was nearly rebuilt in the year 1805: the staircase window, containing armorial and emblematical subjects, was painted by Willement. The house stands in a beautiful valley, near the great north road. Sir Montagu Cholmeley, of Easton, was created baronet, February 25th, 1806.

* When Mr. Hollis viewed this church about the year 1640, the windows abounded with painted glass, which is now almost entirely gone. The description of the arms are, however, preserved in that gentleman's MSS. notes.

† The great spring at Holywell, in Flintshire, is supposed to throw out twenty-one tons of water in a minute. This in Stoke Park, discharges nineteen tons in a minute. They both come out of limestone, and never freeze

CHAP. IV.

STAMFORD BOROUGH, AND THE WAPENTAKE OF NESS.

Ness Wapentake. NESS WAPENTAKE is bounded on the north by Aveland and Beltisloe Wapentakes, on the east by Elloe Wapentake, in Holland; on the south by Northamptonshire; and on the west by Rutlandshire.

This wapentake contains the borough and Market town of Stamford, the market town of Deeping, and the villages of Barholm, Baston, Braceborough, Carlby, Deeping St. James. Deeping West, Greatford, Langtoft, Stowe, Tallington, Thurlby, and Uffington.

Stamford. STAMFORD, situated at the distance of eighty-nine miles north-west from London, and about forty-six south-east from Lincoln, is pleasantly situated on the side of a hill, rising gradually from the northern bank of the river Welland, across which a stone bridge of five arches connects it with Stamford Baron, or St. Martin's in Northamptonshire. The houses are chiefly built of free-stone, obtained from the neighbouring quarries of Ketton and Barnoak, and covered with slate; the streets are partially paved and lighted with gas, the works for which were erected in 1824, at an expence of £9000. It is well supplied with water, which is brought by pipes from Wothorpe, about a mile distant, and the approach from the south is pleasing and picturesque. In 1821, Stamford contained 892 houses, and 5050 inhabitants.

Etymology. The original name of this town, which was *Steanforde*, is derived from the Saxon *Stean*, a stone, and *forde*, from the passage across the river Welland being paved with stones; it was afterwards called Stanford, which was subsequently changed to its present name.

Historical Notices. The town is of very remote antiquity, its origin being ascribed by tradition to a period long before the Christian æra; but the earliest authentic account respecting it is by Henry of Huntingdon, who records it as the place where the Picts and Scots, after having ravaged the country to Stamford, and the Britons, assisted by the Saxons under the command of Hengist, who had been called to the assistance of the Britons by their king Vortigern. It was one of the five cities into which the Danes were distributed by Alfred the Great, when, after defeating them, he allowed that people, with Guthrum their prince to settle in the kingdom, and who were thence called *Fifburgenses*, or Five-burghers, (the other places being Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, and Lincoln,) and subsequently *Seafen-burgenses*, on the addition of two more cities, namely, Chester and York. A castle was erected by Edward the Elder early in the tenth century, on the bank of the river, opposite the town,



to check the incursions of the Danes, and of the Five-burghers and other internal enemies, but every vestige of it has long since disappeared. Another castle on the north-west of the town, the foundations of which are still visible, was fortified by Stephen, during the war with the empress Matilda, but was captured by Henry of Anjou, her son, afterwards Henry II.; and the town appears to have been at this period surrounded by a wall, of which no traces are discernible. CHAP. IV.

The historical events connected with Stamford are so numerous, that we are compelled through want of space, to record them as briefly as possible in the following order:

Anno 449. Peck says, "they" (the Saxons) "arrived in the year of Christ, 449, and the very first battle which ever they fought was at our Stamford, and proved, for the present, an entire defeat of those ravaging barbarians. The circumstances of the rencounter were remarkable, as well on account of their victory, as their making use of long, not short, swords to obtain it."

870. In the latter end of this year the Danes made an incursion into Lincolnshire, and burnt and ravaged most of the towns and villages east of Stamford. A party of the inhabitants of this place, with others, was headed by Harding, of Ryhall, to assist in opposing them. The Danes, says Ingulphus, being now exasperated at the slaughter of their men, having buried three kings early in the morning at a place then called Launden, but afterwards, from this burial, Threkingham, four of their kings and eight counts marched out, whilst two kings; and four counts guarded the camp and prisoners.*

921-2. In the year 921 king Edward the Elder gave battle to the Danes upon Wittering Heath, about three miles south of Stamford, where they are said to have been completely overthrown. In the following year the king advanced to Stamford, in order to reduce it, it being at that time the Danish head quarters in this part of the country. In this attempt the monarch was again successful.

1110. Henry the first was at Stamford, attended by Robert, bishop of Lincoln, Gilbert Aquila, William Tankerville, and others. On the 5th of July, he here confirmed the charters of Manasser Arsic, an English baron, and his lady, to the priory of Cogges, in Oxfordshire.

1140. In this year was a great meeting at Stamford, to conclude a peace between king Stephen and Ranulph, earl of Chester, who both came here for that purpose.

1176. Bertram de Verdun gave to Croxdon abbey all the land he had at Stamford and his mill, which, says the grant, was between the bridge and the castle.

1194. By a charter of king Richard the first, tilts and tournaments were now revived in five places in England, one of which was Stamford.

1203. About this time Stamford was fined twenty marks for making a foolish presentment, removing the market, and choosing mean people to be on the jury. The borough also paid a fine to the king, to enjoy its ancient customs and liberties.

1215. The discontented barons met at Stamford to oppose the oppressions of king John.

1216. King John fled from Suffolk, which county he had been harrassing, pursued by the barons, and reached Stamford, whence he proceeded to Lincoln. Lewis, son of the king of France, was at Stamford during this year.

* For particulars of this sanguinary engagement see *ante* under the head of Trekingham.

BOOK V. 1227. Richard, earl of Poictiers and Cornwall, having quarrelled with his brother, Henry the third, collected an army, and drew many nobles to his assistance, at Stamford. They sent a haughty message to the king, and insisted on his making his brother amends, and restoring Magna Charta. His majesty met them at Northampton, and, terrified by his father's example, peaceably finished the contention.

1256. Henry the third granted to the burgesses of Stamford divers exemptions and liberties, among which where the privileges of being free from the payment of tolls, the receipt of tolls, and the security of their goods from arrest.

1261. Henry the third came in Easter week with his army to Stamford, where he received several presents from the abbot of Peterborough, who had been represented as inclining to the side of the barons. The gifts consisted of horses and money.

1292. About this time a tournament was held here, one of the combatants in which appears to have been Maurice, son of Thomas, the second lord Berkeley.

1300-1-2. A parliament was held here in one of these years. Speed says it was held in 1300, first in London, and afterwards at Stamford; Knighton and Stow, that it was held here in 1301; and Walsingham, in 1302.

1309. A parliament was convened in July at Stamford, where Edward the second summoned by writs the earls, barons, and tenants in chief by knight's service, to attend him on the ensuing Michaelmas day, at Newcastle, with horse, arms, and their whole service, to resist the invasions of the Scots. At the same time he transacted various other business of public importance here, defeated Piers Gavestone's act of banishment, and afterwards returned to his palace at Langley.

1326. Letters were sent in August, under the king's privy seal, to summon the prelates and peers to a council at Stamford, to be held there in October.

1327. During a parliament held here in April, Edward the third, granted an assignment of one hundred marks per month to Sir Thomas Barclay and Sir John Maltravers, for supporting king Edward the second, his father, then a prisoner in Berkeley castle.

1332 Edward the third was again at Stamford in April, where he received presents from Adam Boothby, abbot of Peterborough. He here also confirmed a former charter in favour of foreign merchants trading into England.

1337. A parliament was held here in June, the chief design of which was to discuss matters relating to France. At the same time, the king, by his letters patent, dated at Stamford, confirmed Albini's grants to Newstead hospital On the 12th day of July following, the king signed here the convention between himself and his brother-in-law, Hainault, in which the latter refuses to engage with him against France, unless Edward received the title of the emperor, lieutenant, or vicar.

1377. Richard the second held a council of war at Stamford to consult about an expedition into France. The inhabitants of Stamford and Leicester were ordered, at their own cost, to fit out a barge designed for one of the transports. The plan, however, was not carried into execution.

1392. Richard the second held another council of the lords and chief estates of the realm at Stamford, to consider whether peace or war should be determined in regard to France, at which it was agreed to continue the truce for another year. At the same time they also

agreed to punish the Londoners, who had not only refused to lend the king £1000, but had almost killed a Lombard, who offered the loan to his majesty. It was determined that, instead of a mayor, the Londoners should have one of his majesty's knights to govern them: that their privileges and liberties should be revoked, and their laws abrogated. CHAP IV.

1461. During the civil wars between the houses of York and Lancaster, Stamford was dreadfully ravaged by an army of the latter party, under their leader, Andrew Trollop. These devastations were of such magnitude, says Camden, that Stamford never afterwards recovered its ancient dignity.

1462. Edward the fourth was entertained at Stamford by the alderman, John Brown. the preceding year he incorporated the town by letters patent.

1473. Edward the fourth was again at Stamford on the 27th of July, in the house of the Friars-minors.

1532. Henry the eighth passed through Stamford on his way into Lincolnshire, and was entertained by the alderman, Henry Lacy. The king received £20 from this town on his return, several other towns having presented him with money.

1539 Henry the eighth again passed through Stamford on his journey to York.

1565. Queen Elizabeth passed through Stamford and dined at the White Friary, during a journey in Lincolnshire.

1602. James the first, on his leaving Scotland, passed through Stamford on the 24th of March, at which time the alderman and his brethren attended him on horseback.

1602-3. The plague broke out at Stamford, October the 10th, which infected the town during a whole year. The total number of lives lost by this pestilence is computed by Butcher, to have been seven hundred and thirteen.

1632. Charles the first slept in St. Martin's one night, as he passed into Scotland to receive the crown of that kingdom. The following day the corporation of Stamford escorted him through the town in procession.

1634 Charles the first and his queen, after spending two days at Apthorpe, the seat of the earl of Westmoreland, passed through Stamford, the alderman bearing the mace before them.

1641. About the latter end of July, Stamford was again visited by the plague, which continued with great mortality till the March following. It is supposed that between five and six hundred persons fell victims to its ravages.

1642. Charles the first was again at Stamford in his way to York, and issued a proclamation against the papists.

1643. Oliver Cromwell marched to Stamford, after having taken Croyland Abbey and plundered Peterborough Minster.

1646. The unfortunate Charles, being now hunted by the parliamentarian army, made his escape from them at Oxford in the disguise of a servant He slept at Stamford one night and on the following passed privately out to Southwell.

1696. King William came to Stamford October 28th, and slept at the house of one Mrs. Riley, which stood on the east side of St. Martin's, immediately opposite Wothorpe lane. During his stay here, he went twice to inspect the paintings at Burghley.

1726. A fire broke out in Scotgate, which in two hours destroyed buildings, corn, hay and effects to the amount of £1000.

1813-14. On the 30th of December, George IV., (then Prince Regent) passed through Stamford on his way to Cottesmore, the seat of the earl of Lonsdale. In order to congratulate his royal highness on his arrival in this neighbourhood, the corporation of Stamford prepared an address, which was presented by several members of the body, at the above named earl's seat, and most graciously received. The prince and his suite left Cottesmore on Sunday, January 2nd, and proceeded to Belvoir Castle, where, on the following evening, he became sponsor, with his royal brother, the Duke of York, and the dowager Duchess of Rutland, (officiating as proxy for the queen) for the infant heir of his Grace the Duke of Rutland. His royal highness passed through Stamford on his return, January the 11th, on his way to Buckden Palace, the seat of the Bishop of Lincoln.

Municipal Government.

At the time of the conquest, Stamford was governed by lagemen or aldermen. In the time of Edward the fourth it obtained the privilege, which it still retains of sending two members to parliament; and in the first year of that reign a charter was granted by virtue of which the Aldermen and other officer's were incorporated, under the name of the "aldermen and comburgesses of the first and second bench." Various other privileges were conferred by different charters in succeeding reigns; but the town was not governed by a mayor till the reign of Charles II., who, when he recalled the royal charters throughout the kingdom granted a new one to Stamford, which was confirmed in the reign of James II. By that charter it was again incorporated; and the corporation made to consist of a mayor, thirteen aldermen, and twenty-four capital burgesses, by the name of "The mayor, aldermen, and capital burgesses of the town or borough of Stamford." By the same deed, the mayor and corporation are empowered to choose a recorder, deputy recorder, a coroner and a town clerk, and "to enter debts, according to the statute of merchants, and the statute of Acton Burnell." The arms of the borough, are, *Gules, three lions passant gardant, or, impaling chequey, or and azure.*

Privileges.

The inhabitants of this town boast of great privileges, especially as to the mayor, such as being freed from the sheriff's jurisdiction, and from being impannelled on juries out of the town; to have the return of all writs, to be freed from all lord-lieutenants, and from their masters, and for having the militia of the town commanded by their own officers, the mayor being the king's lord-lieutenant, and immediately under his majesty's command, and to be esteemed (within the liberty and jurisdiction of the town) the second man in the kingdom; and the grant of those privileges concludes thus: "*Ut ab antiquo usu fuerunt*;" "As of ancient time they had been accustomed," so that this charter which was granted by Edward IV., in the year 1461, appears to be only a confirmation of former privileges, not a grant of new ones.

Borough English.

In this town subsists the custom of Borough-English, by which the youngest son, if his father dies intestate, inherits the lands and tenements, to the exclusion of the elder branches of the family. This, as well as the law of Gavel-kind, which prevails in Kent, were of Saxon origin; respecting the reason of its introduction, the opinions of lawyers and antiquaries are divided. Littleton supposes the youngest were preferred as least able to provide for themselves. Dr. Plot conjectures that it arose from an old barbarous right, assumed by the lord of the manor during the feudal ages, of sleeping, the first night after marriage, with the vassal's bride. Whence the first born was supposed to belong to the

lord. Though this might afford a reason for the exclusion of the eldest, yet, in the case of there being more than two, it does not satisfactorily account for the preference of the youngest. Mr. Peck's opinion is less objectionable, he says that Stamford being a trading town, the eldest sons were set up in business, or generally received their respective shares of the paternal property, while the father was living.

Bull Running.

A singular custom called Bull-running, which has been instituted near six hundred years, is held here annually, on the festival of St. Brice; it is a barbarous diversion, and is happily unknown in England, except at Stamford, and Tutbury, in Staffordshire. The traditionary origin of the bull-running at Stamford, and the manner in which it is performed are given by Butcher in his survey of the town;* and this account we will lay before the reader in the author's own words. "The bull-running is a sport of no pleasure, except to such as take a pleasure in beastliness and mischief, it is performed just the day six weeks before Christmas. The butchers of the town at their own charge, against the time provide the wildest bull they can get. This bull over night is had into some stable or barn belonging to the alderman. The next morning proclamation is made by the common bellman of the town, round about the same, that each one shut their shop doors and gates, and that none upon pain of imprisonment, offer to do any violence to strangers; for the preventing whereof, the town being a great thoroughfare, and then being term time a guard is appointed for the passing of travellers through the same, without hurt; that none have any iron upon their bull-clubs, or other staff, which they pursue the bull with. Which proclamation made and the gates all shut up, the bull is turned out of the alderman's house; and then hivie-skivy, tag and rag, men, women, and children, of all sorts and sizes, with all the dogs in the town, promiscuously running after him with their bull-clubs, spattering dirt in each others faces that one would think them to be so many furies started out of hell for the punishment of Cerberus, &c. And which is the greater shame, I have seen persons of rank and family, of both sexes,+ following this bulling business. I can say no more of it, but only to set forth the antiquity thereof as tradition goes William, earl of Warren, the first lord of this town in the time of King John, standing upon his castle walls in Stamford, saw two bulls fighting for a cow. in a meadow under the same. A butcher of the town owner of one of the bulls, set a great mastiff dog upon his own bull, who forced him up into the town; when all the butcher's dogs great and small, followed in pursuit of the bull, which, by this time made stark mad with the noise of the people and the fierceness of the dogs, ran over man, woman, and child that stood in his way. This caused all the butchers and others in the town to rise up, as it were in a kind of tumult." The sport so highly diverted the earl, that "he gave all those meadows in which the two bulls had been fighting, perpetually as a common to the butchers of the town, after the first grass is eaten, to keep their cattle in till the time of slaughter, upon the condition that, on the anniversary of that day, they should yearly find at their own expence, a mad bull for the continuance of the sport."

* Published in the year 1646.

+ "Senatores majorum gentium et matronæ de eodem gradu."

BOOK V.

This singular festival is still held on the appointed day; but from the account above given from Mr. Butcher, of the manner in which the ceremony used to be conducted, it appears, that either the manners of the inhabitants are more refined, or their veneration for antiquity has diminished. After the diversion is over, the bull is killed, and the price for which he sells is divided among the society of butchers, who procured him. This custom of bull-running, which, to a stranger must appear highly ludicrous, Mr. Samuel Pegge observes, "is a sport of a higher kind than diversions commonly are, because it was made a matter of tenure." Those, however, who have read Blount's Jocular Tenures, will not from this circumstance, be inclined to change their opinions, if they before considered it cruel towards the animal, and derogatory to man. It is to be regretted that this boast of blackguardism still exists, but, from the great exertions that were made last year (1833,) it is to be hoped that bull running has nearly run its course.

Representative History.

This borough sent members to parliament in the 23rd, 26th, 28th, 30th, 33rd and 34th of Edward I., the 15th of Edward II., and to a council in the 11th of Edward III., but made no other return till Edward IV.'s reign, since which period it has exercised this privilege without interruption.

Petitions, &c.

May 9th, 1660. Mr. Turner reported upon the double return for this borough, that Francis Wingfield, esq., was duly chosen, and ought to sit; to which the house agreed, and the return was amended accordingly

July 6, 1661. Mr. Serjeant Chareton reported touching the right of election, and the return of William Montague, and William Stafford, esqrs., when it was agreed by the house,

"That the right of election was in such freemen only as paid scot and lot, and that the said members were duly elected."

March 27, 1677. A motion being made that the petition of Mr. Hatcher high bailiff of Lincoln, be rejected, setting forth that he is duly elected, notwithstanding he has himself returned Henry Newell, esq.

Resolved, "That the same petition be rejected."

This town although possessing chartered privileges, superior to most other places in the kingdom, was, previous to the passing of the reform bill, dependent on the Marquis of Exeter, who possesses the greatest part of the houses in the borough. A few years since an opposition was made to this influence by Richard Jepthson Oddy, esq., who caused a hotel and several new houses to be built in the town, but he was not able to overcome this weight of property. At the general election in 1812, Sir Gerard Noel, bart., opposed the nomination of the Marquis of Exeter. The numbers on the final close of the poll were for

Evan Foulkes, Esq.	360
Lord Henniker, ...	354
Sir G. N. Noel, ...	272

Boundaries.

The boundaries as settled by the late reform bill are as follows:—The old borough of Stamford, and such part of the parish of St. Martin, Stamford Baron, as lies between the boundary of the old borough and the following boundary; (that is to say) from the westernmost point at which the boundary of the parish of St. Martin, meets the boundary of the old borough southward, along the boundary of the parish of St. Martin, to the northernmost point at which the same meets the Wothorpe road; thence in a straight line to the southern

tower on the London road, of the gateway to Burleigh House, thence, northward, along the wall of Burleigh Park, to the point at which the same meets an occupation road, called the "New Road," which runs from the Barnack and Pilsgate road, to the river Welland, and in a line in continuation of the direction thereof, to the point at which such line cuts the boundary of the old borough.

In the reign of Henry III., the Carmelites and members of other religious establishments here, commenced giving lectures on divinity and the liberal arts, which being attended by a great number of youths of good family, led to the erection of colleges, and Stamford became celebrated as a place for education; insomuch that, from dissentions occurring in the reign of Edward III., in the University of Oxford, amongst the students from the southern, and those from the northern parts of England, a considerable number of the latter, with several professors, removed hither; but they soon returned to Oxford, in consequence of a royal proclamation, and statutes were passed by both Universities, by which any person taking a degree at either of them, bound himself by oath not to attend any lectures at Stamford. A part of the gate of Brazenose College, standing in St. Paul's Street, is all that now remains of its University.

Churches.

Stamford formerly contained fourteen parish churches, but several of those in the liberties were destroyed by the northern soldiers in 1461; and the number was again reduced in 1538, at the dissolution of the monastic institutions. By an act of parliament passed in 1517, five were allowed to remain, which still continue.

St. John the Baptist's.

The church of St. John the Baptist is situated nearly on the point of the south-west corner of High Street. The living is a rectory, with that of St. Clement's consolidated, rated in the king's books at £8 8s. 6½d., and is in the patronage of the mayor and corporation for one turn, and the marquis of Exeter for two. The church, rebuilt about the year 1452, is principally in the later English style, and consists of a nave and two aisles, with a chancel at the end of each; it has a neat embattled tower adorned with pinnacles, and a handsome porch on the south side, the screen separating the chancel from the nave and aisles, and the roof, are both very handsome. Among the monuments in this church, is a large blue stone in the middle aisle, to the memory of Nicholas Byldysdon and his wife: their figures, inlaid in brass, are clad in mass habits, and their hands are conjoined as in devotion; below him is a group of friars, and below her a group of nuns in the same attitude, and on the four corners of the stone, are the symbols of the evangelists. The inscription in black letter, immediately under their feet, is as follows:—

"Pray for ye soull of Nicholas Byldysdon, sumtyme aldermã of thys towne, and Katheryn hys wyff, ye whych Katheryn decessyd ye VIII day of Septe͞b͞ ye yeare of our lord MCCCCLXXXIX, on whos͞ soull I'hu have mercy."

On another large blue slab near the pulpit is the following inscription in brass:—

"Hic iacent Will'm's Gregory qu' da' mar' isti ville et Agnes uxor eius quor' a'i'ab's p'picietur deus, Amen"

In the church-yard is the following singular inscription:—

IN MEMORY OF

WILLIAM PEPPER,

WHO DIED MARCH THE 28TH, 1783, AGED 46

Tho' hot my name, yet mild my nature,
I bore good will to every creature;
I brewed fine ale, and sold it too,
And unto each I gave his due.

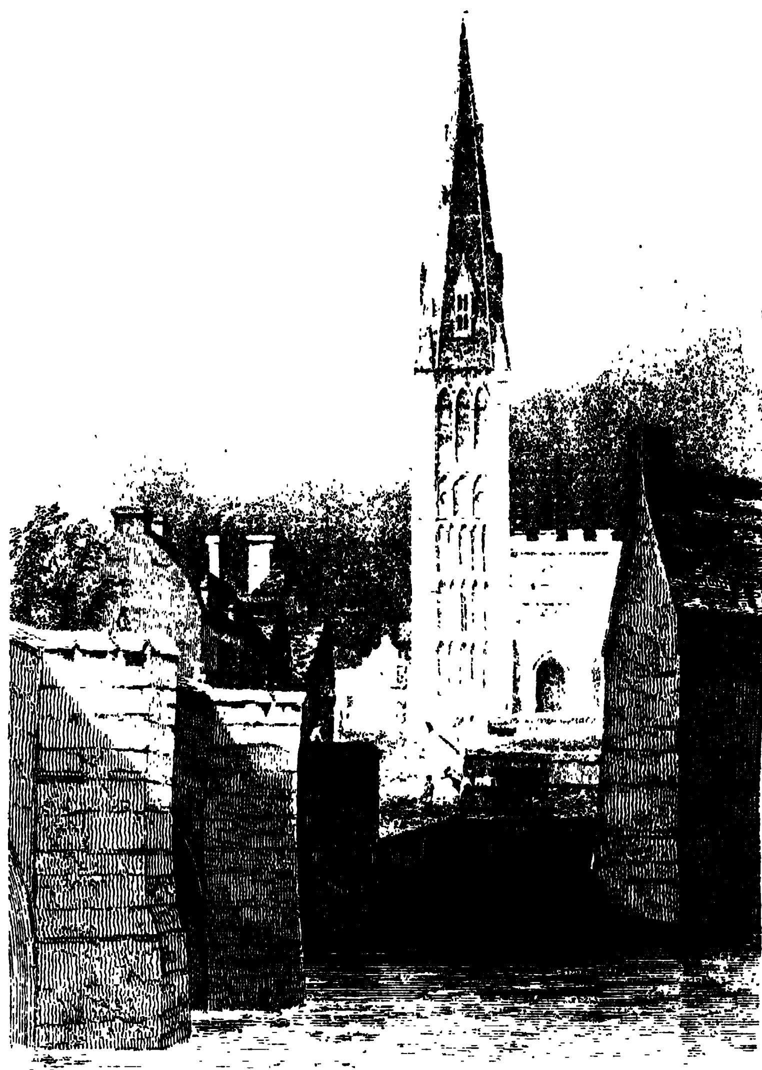
All Saints. The living of All Saints is a vicarage, with the rectory of St. Peter consolidated, rated in the king's books at £12 7s. 8d., and is in the patronage of the crown for one turn, and the marquis of Exeter for two. The church, which is a large well proportioned structure is situated on the north side of Red Lion Square, adjoining the great north road: it consists of a nave, two aisles, and two chancels; one at the end of the south aisle, and the other answering to the nave. At the west end of the north aisle is the steeple, which is a lofty, handsome, embattled structure, with octangular turrets at the corners, and surmounted by a neat octangular spire, crocketted at the angles, from the base to the summit. This church, which Mr. Peck considers "one of the principal ornaments of Stamford," was built at the expence of a Mr. John Brown, merchant of the staple at Calais, who, with his wife lie buried at the upper end of the north aisle. On a gilt brass plate in the wall is this inscription:—

"Orate pro animabus Johannis Browne, mercatoris Stapule Calisie et Margerie uxoris ejus. Qui quidem Johannes obiit xxvi die mensis Julii an. dni. M,CCCCXLII: et que quædem Margeria obiit XXII die Novembris M,CCCCLX, quorum animabus propitietur Deus, Amen.

In St. Mary's chapel, where formerly stood the altar, are figures in brass of William Brown, who built and endowed the bead-house, and his wife, with scrolls over their heads "X me spede," "dere lady help at neede." Against the east window of this chapel is a white marble monument in memory of Mr. Thomas Truesdale, who had lived in the same house that Mr. Brown did, and followed his example by founding another alms-house.

St. George's. The living of St George's is a discharged rectory, with that of St. Paul's consolidated, rated in the king's books at £5 3s. 11½d., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the marquis of Exeter. The church, situated in St. George's Square, adjoining the east end of St. Mary's Street, is a large plain building, consisting of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles, with a square embattled tower at the west end. The windows of the aisles are large with three lights, and pointed flat arches those of the nave have square heads. It was rebuilt in the year 1450, at the sole expence of William Bruges, esq., the first Garter king at arms. In the chancel windows, which are very large, were numerous figures in stained glass. In this church lie the remains of David Cecil, esq., who was high sheriff of Northamptonshire in 1542 and grandfather of the first lord Burleigh.

St. Mary's. The living of St. Mary's is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £4 18s. 9d., endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the marquis of Exeter. This church, which stands in the centre of the street of the same name, and about one hundred yards north of the bridge, appears to have been built at the



latter end of the thirteenth century, and probably on the site of one as early as the conquest, as the inhabitants consider this the mother church. It consists of a nave, two chancels, and north and south aisles. The great tower, forming the west front, is peculiarly striking, the upright is divided into five stories, filled with columns and arches; the spire, of later work, rises in an octangular form, much enriched with canopied windows, &c.; the masonry is truly admirable.* At the upper end of the chancel is an ancient and curious monument, without arms or inscription; the figure of a man armed cap-a-pee, is recumbent by a female figure; this tomb is to the memory of Sir David Philips, who distinguished himself at the battle of Bosworth field. He founded a chantry in this church. In the Cottonian library is a manuscript bill of expenses for repairs, and other matters respecting this church in the year 1427, containing many curious items. In the year 1819, the north side of this edifice was repaired, and the memoranda now observable (placed in the wall by order of the archdeacon) specify the exact portion of ground that belongs to the church, and which was then thrown into the highway. The expences of this improvement, with the several repairs done at the same time to the interior of the church, amounted to nearly £200.

Great St. Michael's.

The living of St. Michael's is a discharged rectory, with the vicarage of St. Andrew's, and the rectory of St. Stephen's consolidated, rated in the king's books at £8 14s. 2d., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the king, as Duke of Lancaster, for one turn, of the mayor for one, and of the marquis of Exeter for two. This church, which, owing to the grossest negligence is now a ruin, is situated about the centre of High Street, directly opposite the south entrance into Ironmonger Street. It is probably the oldest structure, part of it being built prior to the year 1230. It consisted of a nave, north and south aisles, choir, with north and south chancels, which extended beyond the aisles. The eastern end of the choir being in a ruinous condition, was taken down and rebuilt by the parishioners, about the year 1705, when in the wall were found, thrown in as rubbish, sculptured stones, the fragments of some religious building which had existed anterior to this. At the west end of the nave was a wooden tower, which was taken down, and replaced by another of stone in 1761. On Friday morning, June 1st, 1832, nearly the whole of the roof and body of this church fell into a mass of ruins. The building had been for some time under the hands of masons, who were employed to effect what was hoped would be *an improvement, by widening the span of the arches, and diminish'ng the number of the pillars*, so as to admit of a *better view* and hearing of the clergyman. But, by the removal of a pillar, the side walls gave way, and the roof fell in with a tremendous crash. In consequence of these ill-judged repairs, the parts now standing are so weak, and the foundations so bad, that the whole must necessarily be taken down, and an entirely new building erected. After an interval of two years, a subscription is now, (June 1834,) raising for the purpose of re-building the church, and the liberality of the sums contributed, is a safe assurance of the completion of the work. The sum at present contributed is upwards of £1000, including £300 from the marquis of Exeter, £50 from the bishop of Lincoln, £100 from George Finch, esq., M. P., and £50 from Colonel Chaplin, M. P.

* This church is engraved in Carter's Ancient Architecture of England

Besides the churches, Stamford contains places of worship belonging to the Independents, Wesleyan Methodists, and the Roman Catholics.

Independent Chapel.

The chapel belonging to the Independents is a large brick building, situated on the east side of Star Lane, and was erected in the year 1819, at an expense to the subscribers of about £1,800. It is a plain but convenient edifice, and is calculated to accommodate 800 persons. Adjoining the chapel a large room has since been built, in which the members attend lectures twice in the week, in preference to the chapel.

Wesleyan Chapel.

The Wesleyan chapel is situated nearly on the top of Barn-hill, and is a neat structure, with its front of free-stone, on which are emblematic representations of Faith, Hope, and Charity. It was erected at an expence of about £800, in the year 1804, by Frances Treen, a maiden lady, who resided in Stamford, and who gave it during her life to Robert Carr Brackenbury, esq. of Raithby, in this county, together with a neat house, to be appropriated to the use of the minister for the time being. The chapel it is supposed will accommodate an auditory of upwards of 400 persons.

Roman Catholic Chapel.

The Roman Catholic chapel is a neat structure, but small in consequence of the very few catholics that reside at Stamford.

Monastic Establishment.

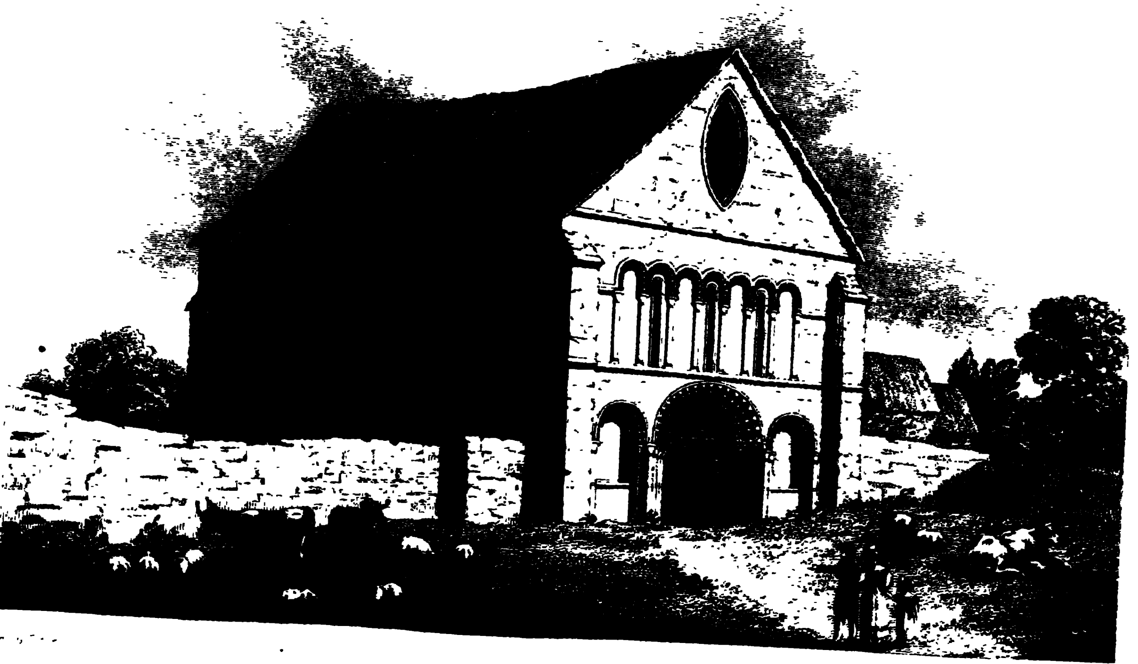
In Stamford were formerly six religious houses: St. Leonard's Monastery; Newstead Priory; the Carmelite, or White Friary; the Grey, or Friars Minors; the Black Friars, or Dominicans; and the Augustine, or Austin Friars.

St. Leonard's Monastery.

The monastery of Black Monks, or Benedictines, dedicated to St. Leonard, was situated about a quarter of a mile east of Stamford near the river. It was founded according to Peck, by Wilfrid, in the seventh century; and refounded in the time of the conqueror, by Bishop Carileph, in the year 1802, who made it a cell to Durham; a part of the conventual church is standing. The aisles and transepts are down; a portion of the nave, sixty feet long, and twenty one broad, is an interesting ruin. The style is Norman; the parts not over rich, or too plain, but possessing the happy medium in design. This chapel has long been the subject of praise among curious men, from the days of Peck to the present time. The elevation is in three stories; the basement story has a large door-way in the centre, with detatched columns, and an ornamented arch; on each side are recesses partaking of the same particulars. The second story shows a columnade with widows. The third story, one window, its shape composed of two segments of a circle joined perpendicularly, producing a pointed arch top and bottom; The design finishes pedimentwise.* Although this building has been degraded to the purposes of a barn, it is still very laudably kept in repair by its owner, the Marquis of Exeter. Following the example of his father, the late marquis, who restored several of the columns deficient in its front; his lordship has recently rebuilt a considerable portion which had fallen down. During the repairs, a stone coffin with a place hollowed out for the head, was found just out side the entrance, and it is very remarkable that the body was entire, and the shroud of a coarse openly-wove woollen, also remained undecayed.

This monastery was granted in the fifth of Edward VI., to Sir William Cecil, by whose heirs it is still retained. It was valued by Dugdale at £25 1s. 2d. per annum; by Reymer at £36; and by Speed at £36 17s.

* Engraved in Carter's Ancient Architecture of England.



[illegible] PRIORY STAMFORD

CHAP. IV.

Newstead Priory.

Newstead Priory was situated on the river Guash, about half way between Stamford and the village of Uffington, within a short distance from the present water-mill. There was a curious book kept in it, which, besides its own estates and endowments, gave a particular account of all the estates and possessions of the neighbourhood in and about Stamford; but it was unfortunately lost at the suppression. This priory, designed for monks and canons of the order of St. Augustine, was founded about the year 1230, by William de Albini, the third earl of Arundel. He was grandson to a Norman nobleman named Robert de Todenai, who built Belvoir Castle, of which Albini was afterwards lord, and where he resided. He was at different times sheriff of Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, and Rutlandshire; also a great soldier, and chief of those barons who resisted king John, for which he was excommunicated by the pope. He for some time kept Rochester castle against the king, and prevented an excellent archer from killing his majesty; and when it was half overthrown, he still retained the other half, yielding at last only through famine: it contained ninety-four knights, besides many soldiers, all of whom were under his command. He saved his life by delivering himself up a prisoner, but was liberated by his wife Agatha Trusbat, daughter of the lord of that name, of Yorkshire, at the price of six thousand marks. He died at his mansion at Uffington, in 1236: his heart was sent to Belvoir, and buried on the north side of the high altar, and the bodies of both himself and his wife were buried in this priory. The heart of Elizabeth Roos was also buried here in 1393.* Dugdale values this priory at its dissolution at £37 6s.; and Speed at £42 1s. 3d.

White Friary.

The Carmelite, or White Friary, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is said to have been founded by Henry III. It was evidently a royal foundation, from the king's arms having been cut in stone over the western gate; but as the coat contains the arms of France quartered with those of England, it is evident that Edward III. was either the founder, or a great benefactor to it. That monarch held a council here, when he confirmed the monastery of Newstead. It was a place used for the reception of the English king's, in their progresses to and from the north, and was situated at a small distance from St. Paul's-gate, where the road divides for Ryhall and Uffington; and, from the remains of walls, appears to have been an extensive building. The west gate still remains entire, and is a handsome, though small specimen of the architecture of the fourteenth century. This convent was surrendered October the 8th, 1538, by its prior. Until the death of the lord treasurer Burleigh, in 1598, the site of it was in his possession, and it is now the property of the marquis of Exeter, his lineal heir male.

Grey Friars.

The convent of Grey Friars, Franciscans, or Minorites, was founded by Henry III. or by some of the Plantagenet family, in the reign of that monarch; who was so partial to this new order, that he wished to place some of its monks in all the great towns within his dominions. Fuller gives a particular account respecting the surrender of this monastery, by its prior or warden, and nine monks, to king Henry VIII., in the year 1539. It stood at the east end of the town, just without St. Paul's gate. Mr. Peck describes various stone figures, and fine pieces of carvings, which have been dug up; but all the remains at present

* Drakard's Hist. Stamford, page 181.

are part of an outer wall, and a postern, or back gate-way. The site was granted by Henry VIII. to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. The lord treasurer Burghley died possessed of it in 1598; and it is now the property of the Marquis of Exeter.

About the year 1424, William Russel, of this order, preached a sermon in Stamford, wherein he contended that it was lawful for religious and monastic persons to cohabit with women, and that such practice was not sinful. He also affirmed that, *by the law of God, no man was obliged to pay tithes to his minister.*

Queen Elizabeth was at one time an inmate of this convent, as we learn by the diary of the lord treasurer Burleigh. He says, that August 5th, 1566, Queen Elizabeth was entertained at his house at the Grey Friary, because his daughter Ann was suddenly seized with the small-pox at Burleigh.

Black Friars. The monastery of Black Friars, called also Dominicans, and Friars Preachers, was situated in the south-east part of Stamford. It was founded about the year 1220, by William de Fortibus, the second earl of Albemarle, who rebelled against his sovereign, Henry the third. It was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and St. Nicholas, the favourite saint of that monastic order. Speed notices a Dominican Friary of St. Mary and St Nicholas, founded at a much earlier period, by Talbois, earl of Anjou, and William de Romara. These were probably the same, but if founded as above described, it must have been for monks of some other order, as that of St. Dominic, did not take its rise till the year 1216. William de Fortibus might therefore have further endowed it, and changed its monks to the more fashionable order of the time.

The Black Friars College took up a great deal of ground, and had fine gardens to the river side. Part, if not all of the church was standing about the year 1600, when Speed's draught of Stamford was taken, from which it appears that the steeple, then likewise standing, was "a strong quadrangular tower". In Peck's time, however, nothing of it was left.

Austin Friary. The Austin Friary, which was situated on the outside of St. Peter's gate, was founded about the year 1380, by Fleming, archdeacon of Richmond, who was a very wealthy man of Stamford. Richard Warner, its last prior, with five monks, surrendered this monastery to Henry VIII. October the 6th, 1539. The site of the house was granted to Edward lord Clinton, by Edward VI. in the sixth year of his reign. It afterwards was in the possession of the lord treasurer Burleigh, but is now the property of the Marquis of Exeter.

Schools.—Radcliffe's Free Grammar School. Radcliffe's Free Grammar School, in St. Paul's Street, was founded in the reign of king Edward VI. A.D. 1548, by Mr. William Radcliffe; and further endowed in the tenth year of James I. by Thomas earl of Exeter, who gave the sum of £108 annually to Clare Hall, in Cambridge, on condition that he and his heirs for ever, should have the nomination of eight scholars, and out of them three fellows; and when any of their scholarships should become vacant, that preference should be given in electing, to the youth educated in the free grammar school of Stamford.

Mr. Thomas Truesdale, of Stamford, by will in 1700, left £50., the interest of which is to be applied by the mayor of Stamford, to the use of the free-born scholars belonging to this school, and going thence directly to the university. The interest of Mr. Truesdale's bequest does not, however, appear to have been claimed from the corporation since the year

1771, who apply the remainder to purposes of which no public account or satisfactory information is given. It is to be hoped the labours of the recent Corporation Commission, will effect much good in this truly munificent charity.

Blue Coat School.

The Blue Coat School was established in 1704, by subscription among the inhabitants, with which an estate at Hogsthorpe, near Alford, in this county, was purchased. The rent of this estate in 1785 was £36 per annum. From this period the rent was increased to £56 per annum; and it continued at that rate until 1806, when it was raised to £90 per annum. At Michaelmas 1814, it was advanced to £105 per annum, but was reduced in 1817 to £100 per annum. Besides this estate, and the liberal subscriptions of several of the inhabitants of Stamford, there are also for the use of the establishment £50, three per cent, consolidated annuities, given in 1802, by John Glenn, formerly one of its scholars, in gratitude for the education which he had there received.

Wells's School.

Wells, or the petty school was founded and endowed in 1604, by Edward Wells, of Stamford, shoe maker.

National School for Girls.

The National School for girls was founded in 1805, from the surplus fund of a lying-in charity, assisted by voluntary subscriptions. It is confined to the education of girls, who are required to attend the established church. Each subscriber of 10s. 6d. is entitled to one ticket of recommendation in the year, and may have one girl in the school; each subscriber of £1 1s. is entitled to two tickets, which will admit two girls in the school; and so on in proportion. The annual sum expended on the school is from £120 to £150 per annum, which includes the salary of the teacher £60, the rent of the school, books, firing, &c. The average number of children taught on the establishment is about 150, which are not exclusively belonging to Stamford, being partly composed of those residing in the neighbouring villages.

Hospitals &c.

The charitable institutions belonging to Stamford are numerous and liberally endowed. The principal is

Brown's Hospitals.

Brown's Hospital, or Beadhouse, founded and largely endowed by William Brown, in 1493, for a warden, confrater, twelve poor aged men, and a nurse, who are incorporated and have a common seal.* It is now appropriated for decayed tradesmen of the town and neighbourhood, each of whom receives a weekly allowance, and some clothing once a year. The hospital stands in that part of the town called the Beast market, and incloses a neat rectangular court, measuring sixty-two feet by thirty-two. It is a stone structure, the front of which is a good specimen of the plainest style of architecture, that prevailed at the end of the fifteenth century, and the entrance porch is particularly handsome. The building consists of a chapel, an audit room, several commodious apartments for the use of the warden and confrater, a spacious room or hall for the common reception of the poor men and women, and other offices: also a double suite of dormitories, or lodging rooms, being ten in number, each measuring nine feet six inches by five feet eight inches, and the whole opening into a large stone passage leading to the chapel. This chapel, which is within the parish of St. Andrew, annexed to the parish of St. Michael, was consecrated by the bishop of Lincoln,

* The seal represents a crowned man, sitting under a rich gothic canopy, with a crucifixion before him, and beneath his feet the half length of a man, whose hands are closed in prayer. Under the latter are the arms of Elmes. and the whole is inclosed by this legend; "Sigillū: cōmune: domus: eleemosinarie: Staunford."

on the 22nd of December, 1494, and an annual payment of 6s. 8d. is made from the hospital to the vicar of St. Michael's, in satisfaction of his parochial demands. Prayers are read here by the confrater every morning in summer at eight o'clock, and in winter every morning at nine. In the windows is much curious painted glass.

Truesdale's Hospital.

Truesdale's Hospital, on the south side of Scotgate, was founded in 1700, and eight poor men and their wives are lodged in it, receiving a weekly allowance of five shillings, and some coal and clothing annually; and, as on the decease of any male inmate, his widow must quit the hospital; the sum of five shillings a week was bequeathed by H. Fryer, esq. to each widow so leaving it, for the remainder of her life.

Snowden's Hospital.

Snowden's Hospital, endowed in 1604, affords an asylum to eight poor women, with a small weekly allowance of two shillings.

Williamson's Callis.

Williamson's Callis, or almshouse, has apartments for ten poor women, with a weekly allowance of five shillings arising from various legacies.

All Saints Callis.

All Saints, or St. Peter's Callis, for men and women, is supported by incidental legacies, and by subscriptions from the corporation.

Hopkins' Callis.

Hopkins' Callis, or hospital, is situated on the south side of the road leading from Stamford to Uppingham, on the site of part of St. Peter's Gate. It was erected about the year 1770, and is a neat stone building of two stories, consisting of eight rooms, of which the four on the ground floor have their entrance from the west, and the four upper rooms have their entrance separately by a flight of steps from the east. It is endowed by the corporation with the interest of £200, arising from the Black Sluice Drainage.

Infirmary.

A handsome Infirmary for Stamford and the county of Rutland, has recently been erected near the town, by subscription, which receives thirty two patients, and towards the support of which, upwards of £7000 stock was bequeathed by Mr. Henry Fryer, and £2000 collected by the ladies at a bazaar; it is further supported by voluntary subscriptions. The structure is exceeding handsome, and occupies a fine open situation at the angle which separates the roads leading to Uffington and Ryhall.

Bequests.

The principal Bequests for charitable purposes are, one of £1800, by John Warrington, esq., for the benefit in equal proportions, of the poor widows of All Saints Callis, and Snowden's Hospital; £3000 left by Mr. Fryer, for the poor of Snowden's Hospital, and Peter's-hill Callis; the rent of four houses, left by Mrs. Williamson, to be paid in sums of three shillings and sixpence a week, to six poor women; and an estate producing £50 per annum, left by Mr. W. Wells for the education of children under ten years of age, belonging to the parish of All Saints.

Lying-in Charity.

In 1814, subscriptions were made for the purpose of supplying relief to poor married lying-in women, under the patronage of the Marchioness of Exeter, and Lady Sophia Cecil. A donation of fifty guineas each was made by these two ladies, who also contribute £5 each annually. A ball is held every Christmas for the further benefit of the institution, which is attended by most of the neighbouring nobility and gentry. The women are required to give eight months' notice, and to pay sixpence a week to the matron during that period, who, at the time of their lying-in, repays it to them, with the additional sum of two shillings from the committee; besides the use of linen, blankets, &c. They have also occasionally medical assistance afforded to them, and after their confinement receive a frock, cap, shirt, &c., for their infant.

CHAP. IV.

Dorcas Charity.

The Dorcas charity was established in October 1816, for the purpose of selling clothing to poor persons at a cheap rate. Any persons wishing to have relief from this charity may apply to any Subscriber, between the months of November and May. On producing this card they are allowed to purchase such articles of clothing as they may want for themselves or their children, at *half price*; but not in any quantity sufficient to induce them to sell again.

Town Hall.

The Town Hall is a large insulated structure, standing near St. Mary's church. It was built by trustees, appointed under an act passed in the year 1776, for widening the road from the north end of the bridge to the Scotgate, when the old hall was taken down. The building has two handsome fronts, and the whole is divided into twenty-two apartments.

Gaol.

The new gaol presents a neat plain elevation, having a pediment about thirty feet broad in the centre of the front, on the entablature of which is inscribed:

ERECTED MDCCCXXI.

RICHARD NEWCOMB, ESQ. MAYOR.

The length is fifty-one feet, and the width eighteen feet in the central projection, and fifteen feet eight inches in the north and south ends. The whole of the edifice with the boundary walls, is raised with stone from Wittering and Barnack, coped with a Yorkshire stone, excepting the pediment, door and window cases, &c., which are worked in Kelton freestone. The prison consists of four stories, which are divided into sixteen apartments, being four on a floor, each of which is nine feet two inches high.

Markets.

The Butchery, Fish, and Butter markets were erected at the expence of the corporation in the year 1807. The south and principal entrance opening into High Street through iron gates, is a lofty portico measuring within side, forty-one feet by twenty-eight. It is supported by eight plain columns at the ends, at the back of which is the fish market, which has covered stalls on each side, and a large stone conduit or pump in the centre; this market is separated from the butchery by a double flight of ascending steps.

Theatre

The Theatre, in St. Mary's Street, a neat building after the model of those in London, was erected at the expence of £806, in the year 1768.

Races

The time appointed for Stamford Races was for several years on the Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, in the second week in June, but they have recently been held on on the same days either in the last week in June, or the first week in July. On the first day is run for the town-plate of £50; on the second, a noblemen's and gentlemen's plate of £50, and a gold cup of a 100 guineas value, by subscribers; and on the third day for £50 given by the marquis of Exeter; besides sweep-stakes and matches on each day.

On the banks of a stream are excellent cold and hot water baths. The trade is principally in coal, rafts, malt, and beer, and is much promoted by the Welland being navigable hither for boats and small barges. There was formerly a school for spinning and winding raw silk, which has been discontinued.

The market days are Monday and Friday, the latter being noted for corn. The fairs are on Tuesday before February 13th, Monday before Mid-Lent, Mid-Lent Monday, Monday before May the 12th, Monday after the festival of Corpus Christi; 5th of August Old Style, and November the 8th.

The new bridge and embankment on the great north road at Casterton, near Stamford, which had been two years in progress, was opened on Monday May 12th 1834. A suitable ceremony took place on the occasion, and sixty of the labourers were regaled with a dinner at the Crown Inn, Casterton. The expence of the whole of the works in connection with this great public improvement was about £6000, of which £1000 was for the purchase of land in the new line of road. The execution of the works has been pronounced by competent judges, to be highly creditable to Mr. Preston, the contractor.

Stamford gives the title of earl to the family of Grey of Groby.

Stamford Baron.

St Martin's, Stamford Baron, though considered part of Stamford, being separated from it only by the river Welland, over which it has a stone bridge, is a distinct liberty and parish in the county of Northampton. Anciently this part of the town was called Stamford beyond the bridge, or Stamford south of the Welland. The first time the appellation of Stamford Baron occurs on record is about the year 1455, being then part of the lands held *per baronian*, by the abbot of Peterborough, to distinguish it from the other part called the king's borough. During the Saxon period, in the reign of Athelstan, it enjoyed the privilege of a mint,* and was particularly favoured by succeding monarchs. King Edward the elder fortified the southern banks of the river against the Danes, who frequently occupied the northern side; and built, according to Marianus, a strong castle in Stamford Baron, to prevent the incursions of that people from the north. Mr. Peck observes that he could not discover that it was ever walled; yet it was defended by five gates and a castle. The latter stood on the verge of the Roman road, where now is the Nun's farm. In Domesday Book this place is mentioned as the sixth ward belonging to Stamford, and as being situated in *Hantunescire*.

Church

The church belonging to Stamford Baron, dedicated to St. Martin, was erected by Bishop Russel, in the reign of Edward IV. It is a large handsome structure, consisting of a nave, two chancels, north and south aisles, and a square pinnacled tower at the west end of the north aisle. The lofty nave is separated from the north aisle by six pointed arches, and from the south by five, supported by slender columns. Mr. Gough erroneously states, that "in 1737 all the painted glass in St. Martin's was taken away, to save the vicar wearing spectacles."†

At the upper end of the north chancel is a cenotaph to the memory of Richard Cecil and his wife, the parents of the first lord Burleigh. The entablature is supported by columns of the Corinthian order, and under a circular canopy are the effigies of both represented before an altar: and on the front of the base, three female figures in a supplicating posture. On the altar are two inscriptions.

A very curious monument of various marble, consisting of two circular arches, supported by corinthian pillars, and surmounted by an escutcheoned tablet, and which has beneath on a raised altar tomb, a figure in armour, with a dog lying at the feet, is commemorative of the virtues of William Cecil, Baron of Burleigh, and lord high treasurer of England.

Against the north wall of the north chancel, is a stately tomb of white and grey marble, erected to the memory of John, earl of Exeter, who died August 29th, 1700; and of his

* Stowe's Annals. This was a privilege granted to the abbot of Medehamstead, and is mentioned in a charter of King Edgar to that monastery.

† Edition of Camden, Vol. ii. p. 244.

lady, who died June 18th, 1709. The earl is represented in a Roman habit, discoursing with his countess, who has an open book resting on her knee, and a pen in her hand, as ready to take down the purport of his discourse. Below is the figure of Minerva with the Gorgon's head; and opposite, the same goddess is represented in a mournful attitude, as lamenting the loss of the patron of arts and sciences. A pyramid of grey marble, ascending almost to the roof, is crowned with a figure of Cupid, holding in his hand a snake with the tail in the mouth, emblematical of eternity.

These monuments were executed at Rome, and display a style of sculpture more distinguished by the quantity than quality of its workmanship.

Against one of the pillars, on the north side of the nave, is a mural monument with a Latin inscription, importing, that it was erected at the expence of John, earl of Exeter, to the memory of William Wissing, an ingenious painter, a native of Amsterdam, and a disciple of the celebrated Sir Peter Lely. He is compared to an early bunch of grapes, because snatched away in the flower of his age, September 10th, 1687, at the age of 39.

Daniel Lambert, the prodigy of nature died at Stamford, June 21, 1809, on his way to Leicester. He had retired to rest in apparent health and intended seeing company the following day, but was found lifeless in his bed in the morning. His coffin, consisting of 112 superficial feet of elm, was rolled upon two axletrees to the grave at the back of St. Martin's church, where a monument was erected, thus inscribed:

"In remembrance of that prodigy in nature DANIEL LAMBERT, a native of Leicester, who was possessed of an excellent and convivial mind, and in personal greatness he had no competitor. He measured three feet one inch round the legs, nine feet four inches round the body, and weighed fifty-two stone, eleven pounds. He departed this life on the 21st June, 1809, aged 39 years. As a testimony of respect, this stone is erected, by his friends in Leicestershire.

N. B. The stone of 14lbs."

Stamford Baron comprises one parish. The living is a vicarage, which, by the munificence of the lord treasurer Burleigh, is endowed with the rectorial tythes.

Benedictine Nunnery.

Here was a nunnery of the Benedictine order, dedicated to the honour of God and St. Michael, by William, abbot of Peterborough, in the reign of Henry II. The annual revenues of which, at the suppression, were, according to Speed, £72 18s. 10½d.

St. Giles' Hospital.

In a deed granted in the time of Richard the first, notice is taken of an hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Ægidius, or St. Giles; and a house of regular canons for knights' hospitallers, but by whom founded is unknown. Where now is the alms-house, stood an hospital dedicated to St. John the Baptist, erected by Brand de Fossato, for the reception of poor travellers. Upon the site of this, William, lord Burleigh, lord high treasurer of England, built an hospital, and endowed it for a warden, and twelve poor men.

Guild of St. Martin.

The Guild of St. Martin provided a priest who was to sing in the parish church. The founder of it is unknown, but it appears to have been established before the 13th year of Edward II. The Guild was endowed in the second of Edward VI. with lands and tenements to the yearly value of £6 2s. 2d., out of which, in rent resolute, was deducted 6s. 1d. Thomas Pocket, forty-seven years of age, and meanly learned, was at that time the incum-

BOOK V. bent. In a succeeding part of this reign, this, and all other guilds were suppressed by an order of Government, as nurseries of treason and rebellion.

Lord Burleigh's Hospital

Lord Burleigh's Hospital is situated at the south-west corner of the bridge, and is erected partly on the site of St. Thomas's Hospital. It was erected by the Lord Treasurer Burleigh, in the year 1597, who endowed it with £100 yearly, issuing out of lands in Cliffe Park, to be employed in the maintenance of a warden, and twelve poor men. The warden now receives 5s. weekly, each of the men 4s., and each of the nurses 6d., which sums are paid every Friday morning by the steward of the marquis of Exeter, or some person deputed by him. Each of the men, including the warden, has also a load of faggot wood, and about six yards of blue cloth for a cloak or other apparel, annually. Besides these receipts, other funds are equally divided among the poor men, which augment their weekly income in the whole to about 6s. The warden reads prayers on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays; and on Saturdays and Sundays, they attend service in the parish church.*

Charity School

Dorothy Cecil wife of Thomas, first earl of Exeter, purchased and settled about eighty-eight acres of land for the following uses: for placing poor boys and girls apprentices; for providing two proper persons to teach poor children to read English and knit; and for such other allowances to the poor of the said parish as the trustees shall think fit; which trustees to be always nominated by the earls of Exeter. A part of these funds, agreeably to the instructions of the benevolent donor, are appropriated by the acting trustee, in providing a master and mistress to instruct ten children of each sex; who also receive a suit of clothes each, annually. They are admitted at the age of nine, and continue at their respective schools till they are fourteen. The master receives a salary of £7 7s. per annum, and the mistress £5.

There is also a Sunday school for boys and girls belonging to this parish.

Burleigh House

Burleigh House, the seat of the marquis of Exeter, is situated at the distance of about one mile to the south of Stamford. This magnificent and truly admirable mansion is composed of free-stone, and forms a complete and beautiful parallelogram, enclosing a court of one hundred and ten feet by seventy. It was built by lord treasurer Burleigh, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, on the site of a very ancient fabric. The approach from Stamford is through a vista of venerable oaks, of singular bulk and luxuriant foliage, which uniting at the top, forms a complete and almost impenetrable canopy; at the end of this avenue we enter the park, and winding up a gentle ascent, amidst groups of fine trees, enlivened by intermingling herds of deer and cattle, the mansion at length bursts upon the view in all the majesty of solemn grandeur, ornamented with a variety of turrets, cupolas, and pinnacles, presenting more the appearance of a beautiful temple, than a habitable dwelling. The entrance is on the north front; it opens into a spacious hall, supported by twelve Ionic columns of Sienna scagliola, and is handsomely paved with squares of black and white marble. From the hall are communications leading to the various suites of apartments, all of which are of magnificent proportions, and fitted up in a style of elegance corresponding with the external appearance of the mansion, profusely decorated with some of the choicest specimens of the arts; among which stand pre eminent,

* Drakrad's Stamford, page 577.



a most extensive and valuable collection of pictures; and two libraries, containing many choice, voluminous, and curious manuscripts.

Among the costly furniture so abundantly distributed throughout the mansion, the marquis' state bed deserves particular attention. The bedstead has a canopy top, eighteen feet high, with a dome of crimson velvet, supported on each side by a cluster of three Corinthian pillars; the head board and cornices are profusely decorated with the family arms and the coronet in raised gold in the centre: the coverlet is of white satin, richly embroidered in gold. The height is six feet, and the ascent is by steps affixed on each side. The bed is on the retiring principle; by means of swivels, the whole paraphernalia of a sanctum sanctorum disappears, and then exhibits a throne or state drawing room, where the marchioness may receive the sons and daughters of fashion in appropriate costume. This superb piece of furniture cost nearly £3000.

The mansion is happily seated in a park replete with scenic beauties, in the disposal and arrangement of which, the genius of Brown has been successfully exerted. The south front commands a fine sloping lawn, skirted with a beautiful expanse of water, over which the views appear to considerable advantage, bounded by different objects in Rutland, Leicester, and Lincolnshires, with the spires of Stamford; and from the north front, the ground gradually slopes to the river Welland, commanding an extensive tract of country.*

Barholm.

The village of BARHOLM is situated at the distance of about five miles north-westward from Market Deeping, and about six miles eastward from Stamford. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £5 11s. 8d., and is in the patronage of the trustees of Oakham and Uppingham schools. In 1821, this parish contained 31 houses, and 154 inhabitants.

Baston

BASTON is distant about four miles to the north of Market Deeping. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a vicarage, rated at £6 1s. 3d., and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821 the parish contained 133 houses, and 682 inhabitants.

Braceborough

The village of BRACEBOROUGH, is distant about seven miles north-eastward from Market Deeping. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £9 10s., and is in the patronage of the crown. In 1821 the parish contained 30 houses, and 198 inhabitants.

Carlby.

CARLBY, situated on the borders of Rutlandshire, is distant about four miles north from Stamford. The church, dedicated to St. Stephen is a rectory, valued at £9 1s. 10d. In 1821 the parish contained 35 houses, and 186 inhabitants.

Market Deeping

MARKET DEEPING, is situated at the distance of about forty-five miles south-eastward from Lincoln, and ninety miles from London. The town derives its name from its situation, the land to the east of it being relatively the lowest in the whole county. Ingulphus observes that *Deeping* signifies a low meadow. He also states that Richard de Rulos, chamberlain to

* This magnificent seat, was near being destroyed by a fire, which broke out in the library, April 1825. It proceeded from a beam which had been injudiciously placed across the chimney, which is supposed to have caught the flames from a stove-grate, heated somewhat more than was usual. As the fire fortunately broke out in the day-time, it was speedily extinguished, and the damage done, did not amount to £100.

BOOK V. William the Conqueror, raised a lofty artificial bank to confine the waters of the river Welland, which before used frequently to overflow; and on this bank were erected a number of houses, which formed a large village. Of this place however, an earlier notice appears on record; for Morcar de Bruern, a valiant soldier in the time of the Saxons, gave to the abbey of Croyland, the manor of Deeping, "cum 200 mansionibus et cottagiis 400, et 2. ecclesiis."* This grant was confirmed by Beorred, king of Mercia, in a charter dated the eighth of the Kalends of August, A.D. 860. About ten years afterwards, Beorred seized the manor with its appurtenances, and bestowed them on a person named Langfar, who was denominated, from the office he held, "Panetarius Regis."

The church, dedicated to St. Guthlac, is a rectory rated in the king's books at £16 1s. 3d., and is in the patronage of the crown. Here also was a priory, of which the parsonage house near the church, is said to be the remains. The entrance is groined and vaulted, but the other part of the house is comparatively modern.

The town has a weekly market on Thursdays, and five annual fairs: on the second Wednesday after the 11th of May; Wednesday before Lammas; Wednesday before the 1st of August; October the 10th, and November the 22nd, for horses, stock, and timber of all sorts. The number of inhabitants returned in 1821, was 1016, occupying 150 houses.

At this place was born Dr. Robert Tighe, who was educated in the University of Oxford, was preferred to the living of All-Hallows, Barking, in London, and afterwards appointed Archdeacon of Middlesex. Being deemed an excellent linguist and divine, he was one of the persons employed to revise and correct the translation of the Bible. His name, however, is not in Fuller's Catalogue of Translators.

Deeping St. James.

DEEPING ST. JAMES, commonly called East Deeping, is a considerable village on the river Welland, at the distance of one mile to the north-east of Market Deeping. Here was a small chapel, erected by the monks of Croyland, for disseminating the gospel; Richard de Rulos converted it into a parish church. The church, dedicated to St. James, is a vicarage rated in the king's books at £6 19s. 9d., in the patronage of Sir Thomas Whichcote, bart. The edifice displays some fine remains of the architecture of Henry III.'s reign, and the font is still more ancient. South-eastward of the church stands a large cross, and before the enclosures there were as many as four or five in this parish.

Priory.

Here was founded a priory of Benedictine monks by Baldwin Wac, or Wake, in the year 1139, and given to the church and Abbey of Thorney, by his grandson Baldwin, to be held free from all secular service, with the reservation of only two marks per annum, payable to the church of St. Guthlac, out of the lands belonging to the prior of St. James in Deeping. In 1540 this monastery was granted to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk. The present manor-house, a large stone-built edifice near the church, is said to be the remains of the priory. It belongs to Sir Thomas Whichcote, bart.

According to the returns of 1821, this parish contained at that period 316 houses, and 1385 inhabitants.

Deeping Fen.

To the east of this village extends a large tract of marsh land, called Deeping Fen, which is described in the following terms by Mr. Ward, who was clerk to the trustees for inclosing

* Ingulphus Hist. p. 4. 91.

this district. It belonged "to several parishes, and is partly holden by persons who are free from drainage expenses, by the nature of their buildings; and all the land is free from every other charge of assessment, and from land-taxes and ecclesiastical demands.

But though there is no poor assessment, relief is granted by the adventurers to some poor persons who do properly belong to the district of taxable land, which expense is mixed with the account of monies expended in supporting the works. But as to the free lands, which are about one third part of the whole, every separate farmer maintains his own poor, without any connection with others. I suppose there are not a great number settled upon them, for being aware of the peculiar burden, I believe they make such contracts for hiring, as to avoid as much as possible having people settled on them. I have sent below a copy of the clause in the act of parliament, relative to the maintenance of our poor, which will shew the foundation of that business, and is all, I believe, in any part of the acts respecting it, viz: 16th and 17th Charles II. p. 37.—"But all and every the inhabitants that may hereafter be upon any part of the said third part, or upon any part of the said 5000 acres, and are not able to maintain themselves, shall be maintained and kept by the said trustees, their heirs and assigns, and the survivors of them, and never become chargeable in any kind, to all or any of the respective parishes wherein such inhabitant or inhabitants shall reside or dwell; any statute or law to the contrary, whereof in any wise, notwithstanding." The qualification is, being holder of 200 acres or upwards. The inclosed fen was formerly part of the common belonging to several parishes adjoining. There is no church in the district; the inhabitants go to the neighbouring towns to church."*

West Deeping.

West Deeping is situated one mile westward from Market Deeping. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £9 17s. 11d., and is in the patronage of the crown. It has a fine tower and crocketted spire; and in the nave are some piers and arches of early date. The font is octagonal, of about the age of Edward III.; from the arms, with which it is enriched, it was probably given to the church by one of the Wake family, after their intermarriage with the Beauchamps.

In 1821 this parish contained 51 houses, and 302 inhabitants.

Greatford.

The village of Greatford, is situated at the distance of about six miles north-eastward from Stamford. The church dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, is a rectory, rated at £18 10s., and is in the patronage of the crown. Wilsthorpe is a chapelry belonging to this parish. Greatford Hall is the handsome and commodious seat of Dr. Willis, eminent for his skill in cases of insanity. In 1821, this parish contained 35 houses, and 258 inhabitants.

Langtoft.

Langtoft is distant about two miles and a half north from Market Deeping. The church, dedicated to St. Michael is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £5 5s. 7d., and is in the patronage of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, bart. In 1821, the parish contained 97 houses, and 485 inhabitants.

Stowe.

The village of Stowe is situated three miles north-west from Market Deeping. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a vicarage, rated at £4 3s. 9d., and is in the

* Two parishes have within the last few years, been formed in the fens, distinguished by the names of Thornton and Carrington; in each of these a chapel has been erected, to which the bishop of the diocese licences the minister.

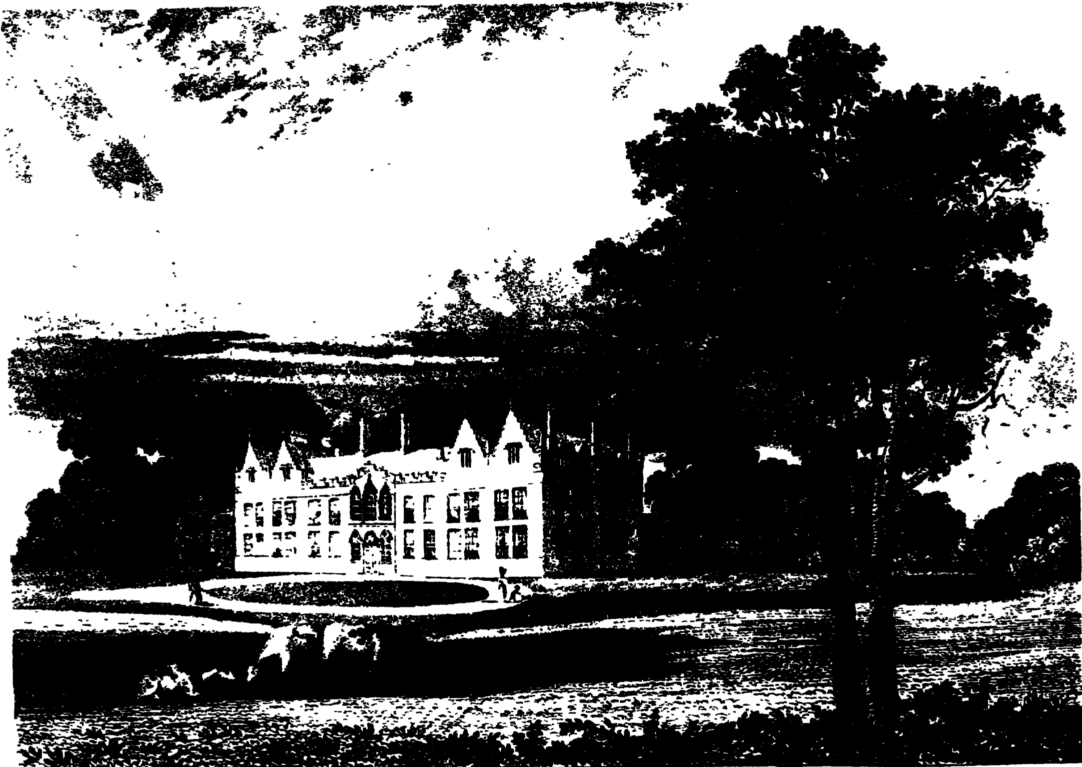
 patronage of the trustees of Oakham and Uppingham schools. In 1821, the parish contained 2 houses, and 21 inhabitants.

Tallington. TALLINGTON, on the Welland is distant about four miles to the eastward of Stamford. The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, is a vicarage, rated in the king's books at £8 9s. 8d. In 1821, this parish contained 46 houses, and 240 inhabitants.

Thurlby. THURLBY is about five miles north from Market Deeping. The church, dedicated to St. Firmin, is a vicarage, rated at £10 9s. 4d., and is in the patronage of Eton College. The ancient Roman canal "Carr Dyke," passes close by the church. In 1821, this parish, including the hamlets of Northorpe and Obthorpe, contained 112 houses, and 622 inhabitants.

Uffington. UFFINGTON is situated at the distance of two miles eastward from Stamford. The church, an extremely handsome structure, dedicated to St. Michael, is a rectory, rated at £21 5s. 2d. Uffington Hall is the seat of the earl of Lindsey; and Casewick Lodge, situated about a mile north-eastward of the village, is the noble residence of Sir John Trollope, bart. Newstead Priory situated in this parish, has already been noticed in our description of Stamford. In 1821, this parish contained 93 houses, and 466 inhabitants.





[illegible] HALL

APPENDIX.

ACCOUNT OF KING HENRY THE EIGHTH'S ENTRY INTO LINCOLN, IN 1541.

Communicated to the Society of Antiquaries

BY FREDERIC MADDEN, Esq. F.S.A.

IN A LETTER TO

HENRY ELLIS, ESQ. F.R.S., SECRETARY.*

(See Vol. I. page 116.)

MY DEAR SIR, British Museum, Jan. 18, 1831.

THERE are but few probably of the members of this Society so slightly versed in the history of their country, as not to recollect the great Lincolnshire rebellion in 1536, when a body of men, amounting, according to historians, to 20,000 headed by Dr. Makerel, the Abbot of Barlings, under the assumed name of *Captain Cobler*, had the hardihood to assemble and remonstrate to Henry the Eighth, against the suppression of the religious houses, the exaction of subsidies, the grant of first-fruits, and other arbitrary proceedings of the King, his Council, and Parliament. The first cause of this serious disturbance is alleged to have been the publication of a book, entitled "Articles devised by the King's highness," &c. in which only *three* sacraments were allowed; and the dissatisfaction given to the clergy by this step, was not long after augmented by the injunctions issued by Cromwell, in Sept. 1536, that the *Pater-noster*, *Ave*, Creed, and Commandments, should be read in English, which, as Holinshed writes, "bred a great misliking in the harts of the common people, which had beene euer brought vp and trained in contrarie doctrine." The issue of this affair is well known:—the reply of Henry to the rebels, in which they are called in no courtly terms, "the rude commons of one shire, and that one of the moste brute and beastly of the whole realme;" and their final submission to the Duke of Suffolk. In the summer of 1541, five years after the above commotion, the King kept his progress to York, and in his way through Lincolnshire, received the humble submission of the people for their offence, with various sums of money offered by the principal towns, as a sort of propitiatory tribute for forgiveness. The earliest notice in print of this progress I am acquainted with is very brief, and occurs in Hall's Chronicle, fol. ccxliiij b. whence it has been copied by many subsequent writers. But, in a volume among the additional MSS. in the British

* Archaeologia, Vol. xxiii.

Museum, consisting of various Ceremonials at the Christenings and Creations of Princes and Noblemen, written chiefly in the reigns of Henry VIII. and Queen Elizabeth, I find on fol. 179, the passage of Hall, followed by an account of the King's entry into the city of Lincoln, on the above occasion, which was evidently composed by one of the Heralds present, and which is sufficiently curious to authorise its transcription. The handwriting of the article is that of William Colburne, Rouge-dragon, and York Herald, to which latter office he was appointed in 1564. The details of the procession, the dresses of the King and Queen Catherine Howard (whose guilt, it will be remembered, with Thomas Culpeper, was established by evidence of the fatal night she passed at Lincoln,) and their suite, will serve to illustrate the mode in which these Progresses were usually conducted, whilst the general and close resemblance of Henry's entry into Lincoln to that of Richard the Second and his queen into London, on a similar occasion, will not fail to strike those who have read the description of the latter by Richard de Maydestone, preserved in the Bodelian Library. It may be interesting also to compare the account here given with that of the visit of King James the First to Lincoln, on his way to Scotland, in 1617, printed in Nichols's Progresses of James I. vol. iii. pp. 260—266, which contains many curious particulars touching the state and ceremony observed on such occasions.

I remain, my dear Sir,

very faithfully yours,

FREDERIC MADDEN.

To Henry Ellis, Esq. F.R.S.
Secretary S. A.

[*MS Add.* 6113, *f.* 179 *b.*]

Of the K's Entree into lyncoln, on Tuesday the ix daye of Auguste.

In Primis, aftre hyt was knowen that his hyghnes was com to temple Brewer to dynn', being vij myles dystant from lyncolne. The mayre of the said Cyttie, w^t hys bretherne Burgesys, and other Comoners prepared them self's toward's the heyght lyke as all other Gentlemen & yeomen of lynsey coste & there abowte dyd, nere vnto the place were hys grac's teñt's & haylle[a] were pytchyd.

Itm the Gentlemen of lyncolne shere dyde arraye theyre su'nt's on horsbacke all on one syde where the K's Ma^tie shulde passe.

M^r. Mayre of lyncolne & his bretherne on ffote.

Itm the Archedeacon of lyncolne, lord Deane, prebendaries, Vyccars, w^th manye other p'sons & pryst's of the same Cyttye, rodde & mette the kinge one myle w^thowt the lybertie of lyncolne before his hyghenes cam to his tent's & there did mak theyre p'pocycon in lattyn, presentinge his grace w^th one Gyfte namyd in vitall, resyted in theyre p'pocycon, and that don passyd the nerest waye to the Mynster of lyncolne agayne.

Itm then his grace cam rydinge & entryd into hys tente, w^ch was pytched at the farthest ende of the lybertie of lyncolne, the Quenes grace w^t hym in his owne tente, and there dyd shyfte theyre apparrell, for his grace was apparellyd before he cam to hys tente in Greene

[a] *Hale*, or tent, Papilio, Scena. *Prompt. Parr.* MS. Harl. 221.

veluet, & the quene in Crymesyn veluet, and then the Kinge shyftyd hym into clothe of golde, & the quene into clothe of sylu.

Itm behynde his grac tente was another for ladyes.

Itm on thother syde a good space dystante was the hayle pytchyd, wherin was the vj Chylderne of honour shyftyd & apparellyd wth clothe of golde & Crymesyn veluet, wherin also was prepared & made readye, as well the K's & queenes horssys of Estate as the horssys they rodde on.

Itm aftre that euye thynge was sett in good ordre, the K's Matie wth the Queene were sett on horsse, and then the herold's of armes put on theyre cotes, and the Gentlemen poncyoners, wth all other of the K's most royall trayne, dyd ryde in ordre hon' ablye, accordinge to the auncyent ordre, my lorde Hastings bearing the Swerde before his hyghenes.

Then hys Matie.

Then his grac's horsse ledd by his mr of the horsse.

Then the vj Chylderne of honour yche aftre other on greate coursers.

Then therle of Rutland, beinge the queenes Chambrelayne.

Then the Queene.

Then the Queenes horsse of Estate.

Then all [the] ladyes in good ordre.

Then the Captayne of the Garde, and the garde aftre hym.

Then the comoners as they fell to the trayne.

In p'ceading thus, not farre fro the tent's Mr Myssleden, Sergieant at lawe, being recourder of lyncolne, wth gentlemen of the Cuntrey, the Mayre of lyncolne, wth his bretherne & other comoners, at the entrye of the lybertie, knealid on theyre knees & cryed too tymes, J'hus saue yor grace!

Itm thys beinge don, the Recourder dyd knele downe ij tymes on hys knee, drawinge neere vnto hys grace, & redde a p'poeyeyon in Englishe (Gentlemen & the Mayre wth his bretherne knelinge styll on theyre knees) and when he had redd, kyssyd it, & rosse & delyued it vnto the Kinge, who toke & gaue it to the Duke of norffolke, presentinge in lyke case one Gyfte named in Vytall, restyed in theyre p'posycyon.

Itm this don, the Mayre presented the swerde & mase of the Cyttie to the Kinge, & then he was placyd agenste the kinge at armes namyd Clarenseaux, behynde the Dukes, and beryngo the mase in hys ryght hande.

Itm all the Mayres Bretherne & burgessys were placyd in the fronte of the trayne.

Then Gentlemen of the Cuntrey.

Then Knyght's.

And then the K's trayne.

Itm bell's were Ronge not onlye in the Cuntrye at all Churchys where his grace cam so sone as they had a sight of hys trayne, and so in lyke mann' there in lyncolne & dyusse plac's adyoynynge.

Itm thus p'ceading at the entrye of the mynster thorowe the Cyttie, the Mayre & his bretherne drewe them celf's ap'te at the entrye of the mynster gates.

Itm the busshoppe of lyncolne wth all thole Queere & crosse were readye, & stodde in the mynster alonge on bothe sydes the bodye of the Churche, gyvinge attend'unce, and

when his grace was alyghtid at the westo ende of the mynster, where were ordenyd & spred as well carpett as stooles wth quyssheons of clothe of golde, for the K's hyghnes, wheron was a crucyfyx laid, and one other on the queenes grace's stoole.

Itm aftre his grace was kneelid downe the busshoppe cam forthe of the Churche & gaue the Crucyfyx to the Kinge to kysse, & then to the queen, and then censyd them, hys myter beinge on his heade, and thus p'ceaded they into the Churche, the Kinge & queenes grace goinge vndre the Canape to the Sacrement, where they made theyre prayers, thole queere synginge melodyouslye *Te Deu'*, and aftre this don, his grace went strayght to his lodginge, and in lyke case all the trayne for that nyght.

Itm the mr. of the K's horsse toke the carpetts & stooles for his ffee.

Itm on the morrowe, beinge wenysday, his grace rode at aftre none to the Castle, & dyd vewe hit, & the Cyttie.

Itm the fotemen toke the Canape for theyre ffee.

Itm his grace & the quene dep'tyd on fryday fro lyncolne to Gaynsborowghe, p'ceadinge forthe of the Cyttie wth trumpetters, herold's & his trayne, in lyke case as his grace entryd, savinge the Mayre, the henchemen, nor horssys of Estate were not there.

Itm therle of Darbie bare the swerde that daye.

SEE BOSTON, VOL. I. PAGE 231.

On Friday the 18th of July 1828, in the neighbourhood of Boston, the day being sultry and oppressive, and the sky covered with thundry looking clouds, a small cloud was seen suddenly to descend in the shape of a column, and as suddenly a similar one appeared to rise from the earth. The two joined, and formed a vast column, forty yards in breadth, reaching from the earth to the clouds. The form continued perfect all the time it remained in sight; it was quite black, and at a distance resembled smoke. When the column was perfectly formed, it advanced rapidly towards the north-east, accompanied by a loud rushing noise, which, as it approached, resembled the discharge of artillery. It was seen thus advancing for several miles, until it reached Wyberton Fen, which is only a short distance from Boston; there its power and ravages were distinctly seen by several persons who were within a few yards of its track. Two labourers were employed in spreading manure upon a piece of land upon Mr. Clarke's farm, at Wyberton: the manure which they had been spreading in two lines, was taken up by the whirlwind, and some of it carried above one hundred yards. The mass then crossed a wheatfield, beating the corn close down to the earth, but as the young straw easily bent, no further damage was done to the corn. The breadth of the column was plainly discernable by its track through the wheat, and from measurement was found to exceed forty yards, the corn within that space being levelled as though some ponderous body had pressed it to the earth. A forty foot drain then interposed, but the column speedily swept across, and, from the quantity of water it deposited immediately afterwards, seemed to have drawn up the entire body of water which spread across its track. On the north bank of the drain, and very near the spot where the whirlwind

crossed it, were a farm house and suitable buildings. The column drew into its vortex a very heavy cart, which it lifted with violence from the ground, and carried with amazing velocity the distance of forty-two yards, when it was dashed with great force to the earth. The whirlwind also took up a heavy roller, which is used to level ploughed land, and which required four horses to draw; this huge machine it raised from the earth, and carried forward a distance of twenty yards. The whirlwind next proceeded over another wheatfield, and passed to another farm where it committed many devastations.*

POISONING OF KING JOHN AT SWINESHEAD.

See Swineshead, Vol. 1, page 55

The following curious narrative of the death of King John, is extracted from a MS. Chronicle of England, *penes* John Clerk, Esq., advocate.+ "And, in the same tyme, the pope sente into England a legate, that men caled Swals, and he was prest cardinal of Rome for to mayntene King Johnes cause agens the barons of Englond; but the barons had so much pte (*poustie, i. e.* power) through Lewys, the kinges sonne of Fraunce, that Kinge Johne wist not wher for to wend ne gone, and soe hitt fell, that he wold have gone to Suchold, and as he went thedurward, he come to the abbey of Swineshead, and ther he abode 11 dayes. And as he sate at meat, he askyd a monke of the house, how moche a lofe was worth, that was before hym sett at the table? and the monke sayd that loffe was worthe bot one halfpenny. "O!" quod the Kyng, "this is a grette cheppe of brede; now," sayd the Kyng, "and yff I may, such a loffe shall be worthe XXd, or halfe a yere be gone;" and when he had sayd the word, muche he thought, and ofte tymes sighed, and nome, and ete of the bred, and sayde: "By Gode, the word that I have spokyn shall be sothe." The monke that stode before the kyng, was full sorry in his hert; and thought rather he wold himself suffer peteous deth; and thought yff he myght ordeyn therefore sum remedye. And anon the monke went unto his abbott and was schryvgd of him, and told the abbott all that the kyng sayd, and prayed his abbot to assoyl him, for he wold gyffe the kyng such a wassayle, that all Englond shuld be glad and joyful therof. Tho wente the monke into a gardene, and fonde a tode therein; and toke her upp, and put hyr in a cuppe, and filled it with gode ale, and pryked hyr in every place, in the cuppe, till the venome came oute in every place; and brought hitt before the kyng, and knelyd and sayd, "Sir, wassayle; for never in your lyffe dranke ye off suche a cuppe."—"Begin, monke," quod the kyng; and the monke dranke a gret draute, and toke the kyng the cuppe, and the kyng also dranke a grett draute and set downe the cuppe.—The monke anon wente to the Farmerye, and ther dyed anone, on whose soull God have mercye, Amen. And V monkes syng for his soull especially, and shall while the abbey stondeth. The kyng was anon full evil at ese, and comaunded to remove the table, and askyd after the monke; and men tolde hym that he was ded, for his wombe was broken in sondur. When the kyng herd thys tidyng he comaunded for to trusse; but all hitt was for noughte, for his bely began to swelle for the drinke that he dranke, that he dyed within 11 dayes the moro aftur Seynt Luke's daye."

* Annual Register. 1828.

+ M. Clerk became a judge of the Court of Session by the title of Lord Eldin, and died in 1831

A different account of the poisoning of king John is given in a MS. Chronicle of England, written in the minority of Edward III. and contained in the Auchinleck MS. of Edinburgh. The author has mentioned the interdict laid on John's kingdom by the Pope, and continues thus

"He was ful wroth and grim,
For no prest wald sing for him.
He made tho his parlement,
And swore his *croy de verament*,
That he shulde make such asaut,
To fede all Inglonde with a spand,
And eke with a white lof.
Therefore I hope* he was God-loth.
A monke it herd of Swines-heued,
And of his wordes he was adrede,
He went him to his fere,
And seyd to hym in this maner:
"The king hath made a sori oath,
That he schall with a white lof,
Fede all Inglande, and with a spand,
Y wis it were a sori saut
And better is that we die to,
Than all Ingland be so wo.
Ye schul for me belles ring;
And after wordes rede and sing,
So helpe you God, heven king
Granteth me all nowe min asking
And Ichim will with puseoun slo,
Ne shall he never Inglond dol wo"

"His brethren him graunt all his bone,
He let him shrive a withe sone,
To make his soule fair and clene,
To for our leued i heven queen,
That sche schulde for him be,
To for her son in trinete.

"Dansimond zede and gadred frut,
For sothe were plommes white,
The stelest† he pulled, out evirichon,‡
Pulsoun he dede therin anon,
And sett the steles al ogen,
That the guile schuld nought be sen.
He dede hem in a coupe of gold,
And went to the kinges bord.
On knes he him sett,
The king full fair he grett;
"Sir" he said, "by Seynt Austin,
This is frout of our garden
And gif that your wil be
Assayet hereof after me."
Dansimond ete frute, on and on
And al tho other ete king Ion,
The monk aros, and went his way,
God gif his soule wel gode day;
He gaf king John ther his pulson,
Himself had that ilk doun,
He dede, it is nouther for mirthe ne one,
But for to save all Inglond.

* *Hope* for *Think*. † *Steles*—Stalks. ‡ *Evirichon* Every one.

"The king Ion sate at mete,
His wombe to waxe grete.
He swore his oath, *per la croyde*,
His wombe wald brest a thre;
He wald have risen fram the bord
Ac he ne spake never more word.
Thus ended his tyme
Y wis he had an evil fine."

Shakspeare, from such old Chronicles, had drawn his authority for the last fine scene in *King John*. But he probably had it from Caxton, who uses nearly the words of the prose Chronicle; Hemingford tells the same tale with the metrical historian. It is certain that John increased the flux, of which he died by the intemperate use of peaches and of ale, which may have given rise to the story of the poison.*

LOUTH NEW CHURCH.

(See Louth, Vol. II. page 190.)

Since the Editor visited Louth, (Oct. 1833,) a new church has been erected in that town. Not having seen it himself he has thought it better to give the following account of the edifice in the words of a correspondent in the Stamford Mercury, June 13th, 1834.

Louth, Trinity Church.—We are just returned from taking a view of this building, and we must declare our astonishment at the rapid progress which has been made, as well as express our unqualified admiration of the design and character. There is in it something of novelty, but nevertheless a correct exhibition of good taste, with the strictest reference to advantage in arrangement and execution. We do not know in this part of the country, a church in which is concentrated so much of the unique with so much that is acceptable. The span is considerable, but there will be no interruption of effect by pillars; the spacious roof will be carried up on another principle, equally chaste but more ornamental; the capabilities for seeing and hearing are such, as that we know not which situation may be esteemed the more preferable spot. It is fully intended that the church shall be ready for consecration the last week in August, when the bishop of the diocese will be visiting this town on other ecclesiastical business.

THE REV. JOHN WESLEY, THE FOUNDER OF THE METHODISTS.

See Epworth, Vol. II. page 212.

The above great and virtuous man was of a good family. Bartholomew Wesley, his great grandfather, studied physic as well as divinity at the University, but was ejected, by the act of uniformity, from the living of Allington in Dorsetshire. John, the son of Bartholomew, was educated at New Inn Hall, Oxford, in the time of the Commonwealth.

* See Matthew Paris.

and was distinguished not only for his piety and diligence, but for his progress in the oriental tongues. He obtained the living of Blandford, in his own county, and was ejected from it for non-conformity. This John Wesley married the neice of Thomas Fuller, the church historian, and left two sons, of whom Samuel was the younger. This Samuel continued through life a zealous churchman: he walked to Oxford, and entered himself at Exeter College, as a poor scholar; he afterwards came to London to be ordained. Having served a curacy there one year, and as chaplain during another on board a King's ship, he settled upon a curacy in the metropolis, and married Susannah, daughter of Dr. Annesley, one of the ejected ministers. The marriage was blest in all its circumstances: it was contracted in the prime of youth: it was fruitful: and death did not divide them till they were both full of days. They had no less than 19 children.

JOHN, his second son, the subject of this memoir, was born at Epworth, in Lincolnshire, on the 17th of June 1703. When six years old, he was providentially preserved from fire. His father's house was in flames, and John was not missed for some time, when he was heard crying in the nursery. His father ran to the stairs, but they were so nearly consumed that they could not bear his weight, and being utterly in despair, fell upon his knees in the hall, and in agony commended the soul of his child to God. John had been awakened by the light, and thinking it was day, called to the maid to take him up; but not being answered, he opened the curtains, and saw streaks of fire upon the top of the room. He ran to the door, and finding it impossible to escape that way, climbed upon a chest which stood near the window, and was then seen from the yard. There was no time for procuring a ladder, but it was happily a low house; one man was hoisted upon the shoulders of another, and could then reach the window, so as to take him out: a moment later and it would have been useless; the whole roof fell in. John Wesley remembered this providential deliverance through life with the deepest gratitude. In reference to it, he had a house in flames engraved as an emblem under one of his portraits, with these words for the motto "Is not this a brand plucked out of the burning?"

John Wesley was educated at the Charter-house; and here, for his quietness, regularity and application, he became a favourite with the master, Dr. Walker. At the age of seventeen, he was removed from the Charter-house to Christ Church, Oxford; and was ordained in the autumn of the year 1725, by Dr. Potter, then Bishop of Oxford. He was selected fellow of Lincoln College in March 1726; and eight months after he was appointed Greek lecturer and moderator of the classes. His father, from age and infirmity, was unable to perform the duties of both his livings; and John, at his request, officiated for him at Wroote.

In April, 1735, he lost his father, leaving his family in very distressed circumstances. this good man left behind him his work upon the book of Job; John was therefore deputed to go to London, and present it to Queen Caroline; while in the metropolis, he found the trustees of the new colony of Georgia were in search of persons who would preach there to the settlers and the Indians; when John and his brother Charles consented to go. They embarked at Gravesend, on the 14th of October, 1735; and on the 5th of February following, they anchored in the Savannah river. In 1737, Charles was sent to England with despatches, leaving his brother behind him. In this year Wesley fell in love with Sophia Causton, and would have married her, but was forbid by the Moravians: this lady, after-

wards married a Mr. Williams; for which Mr. Wesley rebuked her. In this year owing to some difference with the inhabitants, he embarked for England.

Mr. Wesley had now become amazingly popular. Methodism had taken root in the land, and had assumed some form and consistence. Meeting-houses had been built, societies formed, funds raised, rules enacted, lay-preachers admitted, and a regular system of itinerancy begun. While preaching in Bristol in 1742, he had to encounter some dangerous opposition. At Chelsea, the mob threw wild-fire and crackers into the room where he was preaching. At Long-lane they broke in the roof with large stones, so that the people therein, were in danger of their lives. Wesley had preached at Wednesbury, in Staffordshire; and the mob were excited by some persons to insult him. He preached in the midday without being molested; but in the evening the people cried out for "the minister." He accordingly obeyed the summons, and standing on a chair, asked what they wanted; they told him, to take him to a magistrate; he cheerfully agreed to go with them, and at night, they set out to the nearest justice, a distance of two miles; on their way, it rained heavily; at length, they reached Mr. Lamb's, the magistrate, who would not listen to the mob's charges: then they took Mr. Wesley to Justice Persehouse, at Walsal; but he was in bed: no sooner was it known in Walsal, that Mr. Wesley was there, than hundreds hastened to insult him: the entrance to the town was down a steep hill, and the path was slippery, because of the rain. Some of the ruffians attempted to throw him down; part of his clothes were torn off; and blows were aimed at him with a bludgeon; and one cowardly assassin gave him a blow on the mouth which made the blood gush out. With such outrages, they dragged him into the town. Seeing the door of a large house open, he attempted to go in, but was caught by the hair, and pulled back into the middle of the crowd. Many cried out, "knock his brains out! down with him! kill him at once! crucify the dog! crucify him!" At length he obtained a hearing; and began by asking, "What evil have I done? which of you have I wronged by word or deed?" A feeling in Wesley's favour, was now manifested; and about ten o'clock, he was brought back to Wednesbury in safety. This persecution, tended to farther the progress of Methodism, instead of suppressing it.

In 1745, Mr. Wesley married Mrs. Vizelle, a widow lady, with four children, and an independent fortune; but she soon dreadfully tortured him by her outrageous jealousy, and abominable temper; it is indeed said she frequently travelled a hundred miles for the purpose of watching from a window who was in the carriage with him; she searched his pockets, opened his letters, put his letters and papers into the hands of his enemies, in hopes they might be made use of to blast his character; and sometimes laid violent hands upon him, and tore his hair: in return for all this ill-treatment, this good man, gave nothing but kindness. "My dear Molly," said he in one of his letters, "let the time past suffice. As yet the breach between us may be repaired; you have wronged me much, but not beyond forgiveness. I love you still, and am as clear from all other women as the day I was born." She frequently left his house, and upon his earnest entreaties, returned again; till after having disquieted twenty years of his life, she seized on a part of his journals, and many other papers, which were never restored, and departed, leaving word that she never intended to return. Mrs. Wesley lived ten years after the separation.

Mr. W. lived to preach at Kingswood under the shade of trees which he had planted

and he out-lived the lease of the Foundery, the place which had been the cradle of methodism. On April 1, 1777, he laid the foundation of the chapel in the City Road.

In the year 1791 his strength was quite gone; and no glasses could help his sight. On the 17th of February, after preaching at Lambeth, he took cold; for some days he struggled against an increasing fever, and continued to preach till the Wednesday following, when he delivered his last sermon; and on the 2nd of March he died in peace, being in the eighty-eighth year of his age, and the sixty-fifth of his ministry. During his illness, he said, "Let me be buried in nothing but what is woollen, and let my corpse be carried in my coffin into the chapel." In his will, he directed that six poor men should have twenty shillings each for conveying his body to the grave. At the desire of many of his friends, his body was carried into the chapel the day preceding the interment, and there lay in a kind of state becoming the person, dressed in his clerical habit, with gown, cassock, and band; the old clerical cap on his head, a bible in one hand, and a white handkerchief in the other. The face was placid, and the expression which death had fixed upon his venerable features, was a most serene and heavenly smile. The crowds who flocked to see him were so great, that it was thought prudent, for fear of accidents, to accelerate the funeral, and perform it between five and six o'clock in the morning.

Mr. Wesley left no other property behind him, than the copy-right and current editions of his works—all the rest this excellent man had expended in *Charity!*

MR. WESLEY'S EPITAPH ON THE TOMB-STONE.

To the memory of
The venerable JOHN WESLEY, A. M.
Late Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford.
This great light arose
(By the singular Providence of GOD)
To enlighten these nations,
And to *revive*, *enforce*, and *defend*,
The pure, apostolical doctrines and practices of
The Primitive Church:
Which he continued to do, by his writings and his
Labours,
For more than half a century:
And, to his inexpressible joy,
Not only beheld their influence extending,
And their efficacy witnessed,
In the hearts and lives of many thousands,
As well in the western world as in these
Kingdoms:
But also, far above all human power or expectation,
Lived to see provision made by the singular
Grace of God
For their continuance and establishment,
To the joy of future generations!

Reader! if thou art constrained to bless the instrument,
Give GOD the glory!

After languishing a few days, he at length finished
His course *and his* life *together; gloriously*
Triumphing over Death, March 2, An.
Dom. 1791, *in the Eighty-eighth*
Year of his Age.

ADDENDA

TO THE HISTORY OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

As some apology for the following "Addenda," the PRESENT *Editor of the History of Lincolnshire, thinks it necessary to inform the Subscribers that* HIS *labours did not commence till page* 109, *vol.* 2. *That some errors have crept into the work, since it has been under his control, will be evident on glancing over the following list; but the very short notice at which he undertook the work, together with the many difficulties he had to contend against, will, he trusts, ensure the pardon of his best friends—the subscribers.*

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9.—Horsley's appears to be the best opinion as to the situation of Causennis which is now generally allowed to be Ancaster. Stukeley's opinion as to Sidnacester being at Stow is now generally considered correct.

11.—On the branch of the Ermine street going by Falkingham, Threckingham, and Sleaford, (and which is considered by Stukeley to be the oldest of the two,) about half way between the two latter towns, a lapis miliaris or milestone is still visible, and which is known by the name of "Mere Stone:" it consists of a square pedestal with a short round shaft, and is altogether about 3 feet high.

12.—The Saltway is supposed to have terminated at Vainona, or Wainfleet.

There is an undoubted Roman road from Horncastle, by Baumber, Burgh on Bane, Caistor, Kirmington near to Yarboro' Camp, Wooton and Thornton Curtis to Barton. Numerous barrows still exist on the sides of this road. This and the Blue Stone Heath road form in many parts the boundaries of the different Hundreds, and in more of parishes.

13.—The road from Burgh (near the coast) appears to have gone near Luda or Louth and thence to North Ormsby, East Ravendale, and Brocklesby, and to have joined the last described road about Thornton Curtis. The road by Tetford, Oxcomb, Withcall, Stenigot and Gayton le wold, seems to have been a branch from this, it is still very distinct and is known by the name of the Blue Stone Heath road.

62 & 63.—The Butomus umbellatus or flowering rush, and the Stratiotes aloides, or water aloe, are found about Lincoln in great profusion.

64.—The Ancholme River rises, not in the Wolds, but in Fillingham park on the north cliff about 8 miles from Lincoln.

66.—The Car Dyke was carried much higher up the river than Stixwould, as it may still

be traced under the edge of Nocton and Branston Woods running, especially under the latter wood, in a direct line to Fiskerton, it cannot however be traced after entering Washingboro' in which it is supposed to have joined the Witham.

96.—Many of the Deputy Lieutenants mentioned in this list were dead long before 1830, and several are since dead among whom are the following: Nevile King, Esq.; William Graburn, Esq.; William I. Corbett, Esq.; James Neve, Esq.; George R. Heneage, Esq.; George Lister, Esq.; Sir Jenison W. Gordon; Sir Montague Chomley; Joseph Laurence, Esq.; George Parker, Esq.; John Yerburgh, Esq.; Thomas Pulvertoft, Esq.; Robert Holdich, Esq.

Mr. Loft resides at Market Stainton, not Market Rasen.

97.—The following Magistrates are dead, besides such of the above as were in the Commission of the peace; Rev. E. Booth, Rev. J. Fretwell, Rev. E. Brackenbury, T. Goulton Esq. Rev. Dr. Grantham, Rev. H. I. Wollaston.

98.—Joseph Brackenbury, Esq. Clerk of the Peace for Lindsey is dead, and succeeded by, J. H. Hollway, Esq. of Spilsby.

99.—The Petty Sessions for Kesteven, at Lincoln, are now held in the Judges House, and not at the Rein Deer Inn.

114.—The Bail and Castle of Lincoln remained annexed to the duchy of Lancaster till the year 1832, when the Castle was sold to the Magistrates of the County, it being till that time the actual property of the King as Duke of Lancaster.

116.—The real leader of the insurrection in the year 1553, under the name of Captain Cobler; is supposed to have been the Abbot of Bardney.

117.—The towns of Bracebridge, Canwick, Branston and Waddington, were annexed to the City of Lincoln, and were with the City itself, erected into a separate county in the 5th year of Edward IV., not in the 3rd year of George Ist. as here stated.

The £10 householders residing within the bail and close are included in the electors by the Reform Act, though not locally situated with the city, being in the hundred of Lawress.

136.—1st George IV. 1820. Coningsby Waldo Sibthorp and Robert Smith were elected. C. W. Sibthorp dying 9th March, 1822; John Williams was elected in his place.

141.—In the account of the population, "St. Margaret *in the Close*," should be "*in the City*;"—and in the next page, in the note, after "St. Mary Magdalen in the Bail," add the words "and Close:" and for "St. Peter in the Bail," read "St. Paul in the Bail."

150.—Bishop Holbech is stated to have left no other residence than Lincoln to his successors; the palace of Bugden still remains and is the principal residence of the bishops in modern times.

156.—The Copy of the Magna Charter is understood to be in the Library of the Cathedral not in the Registry Office.

157.—What Dr. Southey imagined to be beams laid from column to column to strengthen them, are in reality bridges extended across the transept for the purpose of communication between different vaults.

162.—Note.—For Haywood read Hayward.

164.—Five lines from the bottom, for "southern" read "northern."

174.—The list of great bells is not quite correct, the bell in St. Paul's is not so heavy as the bell at Lincoln by 488 pounds, weighing only 9408 pounds.

The celebrated bell, "Great Tom," of Lincoln, which was cracked some years ago, is about to be restored. The Dean and Chapter of the cathedral having entered into a contract with Mr. Mears of London, to take down the present bell, recast, increase, and then to re-hang it. Two new quarter-bells are also to be cast at the same time. By the contract, the whole work is to be completed before March next 1835. The new bell is to be hung in the Broad Tower, which has been surveyed, and declared perfectly safe. The demolition of "Great Tom," took place after morning service of Wednesday (June 18th, 1834,) the clapper being employed as a battering ram, until, by repeated strokes the mass was broken into seven or eight pieces. The new bell is to weigh 12,000lbs.; the old "Tom" weighed 9,894lbs.

The peal of bells in the Broad Tower called the "Ladye Bells," were takento the wharf of Messrs Sharp on Monday last, on their way to London to be re-cast. On the treble is "Jesus be our speed, 1633; on the second, "Daniel Hedderby, Founder, 1737;" on the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th, (all dated 1593,) are Latin verses, illustrative of their several names, of Thomas, Catherine, John, and Mary. On one side of the four latter, are the bell-founders arms, surrounded by a belt with this inscription, "made bi Robert Qvernli, et Henri Oulfeld." *Stamford Mercury, June 27th,* 1834.

174 & 175.—There is evidently a mistake in Mr. Wild's admeasurements, he states the total internal length of the cathedral at 470 feet, and yet he gives the measure of the nave 240, the choir 140, and the presbytery 116 feet, making 496 feet, without allowing for the thickness of the two screens, the one at the organ and the other at the altar, the former of which must be at least 10 feet, if not more. Mr. Espin states the internal length to be 482 feet, but even this does not appear to be sufficient, if Mr. Wild's separate admeasurements are correct. We subjoin a table of Mr. Espin's admeasurements:

	ft.	in.
Height of the two western towers	180	
Height of the broad or centre ditto	300	
Width of ditto	53	
Exterior length of the church with its buttresses	524	
Interior ditto	482	
Width of the western front	174	
Exterior length of the great or lower transept	252	
Interior ditto of ditto	222	
Width of ditto	66	
Length of lesser or upper transept	170	
Width of ditto, including the side chapels	44	
Width of the cathedral	80	
Height of the nave	80	
Diameter of the Chapter house	60	6
North and south sides of the cloisters	118	
East and west ditto	91	

We subjoin the principal admeasurements of York Cathedral—York Cathedral is 518 feet long on the exterior, including the buttresses, and 486 feet the interior; the Lanthorn Tower is 198 feet high, and 69 wide; and the small towers are 172 feet 2 inches. and the pinnacles 24 feet, together 196 feet 2 inches; the width of the west front is 140 feet including the buttresses, and 106 in the interior. The length of the transept is 241 feet, the height of the walls 92 feet 6 inches; from the ground to the top of the roof is 112 feet; the nave is 93 feet 6 inches, and the choir 100 feet in height; from the ground to the top of the east window is 102 feet 6 inches, and to the top of the north transept 113 feet 6 inches.

176—The western Exchequer Gate was taken down before the year 1810. There are no gates now remaining in East Gate, there was only one in 1810, which was taken down about 1814, or 1815.

In the description of the tomb in the Priory, instead of its being stated to be in the "South Wall," it should be on the "South side of the Wall," as it is in the north wall of the house.

177—The Works chantry adjoining the Deanery were taken down about the year 1827, being in a very dilapidated condition. It is generally understood that more than one of the parliaments, which have been held in Lincoln, were holden in this building. An ancient stone lanthorn, which was over the entrance, was, (on the demolition of the building,) placed over a door-way attached to the deanery.

180 & 181—The following alterations and additions should be made in the list of churches:—St. Peter "ad vincula" in the old Fish Market; St. John "the Poor" ditto; St. Andrew within the Palace, should be Danesgate near the Palace; St. Trinity Closegate, should be near St. Botolph Green; St. Edward the King was near St. Mark's;—St. Augustine was east of Broadgate;—St. Panond, should be St. Baron Broadgate;—St. Rumbold, was in Broadgate; St. Peter by the Pump, was east of Broadgate:—St. Peter beyond the Bar, should be St. Peter ad placita Guildhall Street;—St Andrew was nearly opposite St. Peter at Gowts;—St Margaret was below the Little Gowt;—St. Michael was above the Great Gowt;—Holy Cross was against the Gowt Bridge;—St. Mark is in High Street;—St. Peter in Broadgate, should be St. Peter at Stone Beck Head, in Hungate. We cannot discover the localities of St. Peter in the Bail, and St. Edward, the last on the list; but this latter must have been somewhere in the parish of St. Peter at Gowts. *Vide next page.*

182, 183, 184 & 185.—The act, or deed of union, dated 4th September, 1553, relates only to the city, not to the Bail and Close. There are but three copies known to be in existence, one is in the possession of the corporation, another in that of the Dean and Chapter, (neither of whom will allow them to be examined,) and the third is in our office, and was communicated to Messrs Drury and Sons when they published their History of Lincoln in 1816.

186—St. Paul's having been rebuilt in 1786, no trace of the North door mentioned by Stukeley is now to be found.

187—The drain which crosses the High street near St. Peter at Gowts-church, is not a branch of the river Witham, but the outlet of drains from the westward, and is carried under the river by a tunnel.

188—An elegant pointed arch (now built up) surmounted a tomb (which has been some years removed,) in the chapel to the south of the chancel in St. Peter's at Gowts church, round which is a latin inscription (with some Greek words intermixed,) intimating the same to have been erected by, or to, the memory of Radulphus Ioluf; but the whole is too confused to be made out, and is without any date; it was probably erected about the latter end of the 14th, or begining of the 15th century.

192—In the last line for Martson read Marston.

194—The houses in the upper town, though old, are neither mean nor disgusting, and for accommodation and size of rooms are in general, rarely to be equalled, certainly never excelled.

Fish market hill is in the city, and not in any part of the town known as "above hill" which includes only the bail and close, with part of the parish of St. Peter in Eastgate, which latter though in the city is above the hill.

195—One of the best views of Lincoln, is from a clump of two or three trees on the precipitous ridge above Canwick common, considerably to the west of the Canwick Gate.

The mountain Axe Edge in Derbyshire must be at least 70 miles in a direct line from Lincoln; it is presumed therefore that the view of the minster from thence can only be obtained by means of a good telescope. It may be seen from the hills two or three miles west of Sheffield, but we believe not with the naked eye.

196—The whole of the outer walls of the castle are still standing.

198—Part of the passage between the castle and Lucy Tower, was accidently opened a few years ago, in a place called Besom Park, whilst digging for stone, and was found to be nearly in the line of the Roman Wall, which terminated at Lucy Tower. A small Roman altar was dug up, which is now in the possession of Henry Hutton, Esq.

The castle has been lately purchased by the county, of the crown for about £14,000.

201—Lines one and two for "right" read "left" and for "left" read "right". There is no upper story except in the centre; the courts reach from the ground to the roof.

It is not a branch of the Witham that crosses the street above St. Botolph's, but a gowt or sluice for draining the county to the westward.

203—The High Bridge had 8 arches in 1628, *vide* the commencement of the charter p. 118.

204—The establishment called the Jersey school is now completely dissolved.

205—Since the dissolution of the stuff or Jersey school, the ball for the encouragement of that manufactory, has become merely a colour ball, the Lady Patroness fixing the colour which ladies are expected to wear in their gowns and trimmings, and for many years it had ceased to be considered as an encouragement to the Jersey School, as none of the stuff worn was made at that establishment. This ball has been for years the largest meeting in the county.

206—Line 4 for "north east" read "north west."

Transpose lines 9 and 10.

207—The Race stand was erected not by subscription but by the corporation, out of the corporate funds. They expended above £5,000 in this building and the improvements of the course; being anxious to benefit the town, but at present without much success, the races being very badly attended.

Line 10 for "about" read "above."

The south or Canwick common is for freemen and householders residing below the High bridge, as the West or Race common is for those above. The Monk's Leas is for freemen above, the Holmes for freemen below the Bridge.

In 1819 in digging in the Castle yard a small silver-seal was found, bearing argent, a fess dancette between three roses, pierced gules, the crest, a Griffin or Wyvern passant. These arms are on the walls of Bishop Russel's chapel in the cathedral (to the eastward of the grand south porch,) and are delineated in Yorke's Union of Honour, (a most excellent work on Heraldry by a Blacksmith of Lincoln,) in which they are said to belong to Smith of Lincoln Castle.

This seal is, or was a few years since in the possession of Mr. Merryweather the late Governor of the Castle.

208—7th line from the bottom insert "De Laet" between "Charles" and "Waldo."

4th line from the bottom for "Lincoln" read "London."

Last line for "south" read "south east."

209—Line 4th in the description of Waddington dele "West."

Mere Hall or Hospital is south-east from Lincoln.

210—The remainder of the Mere estate lately belonging to John Manley, Esq., is now the property of Major Colegrave.

211—Causennæ or Causennis is now generally allowed to be at Ancaster.

247—Line 9 for 1249 read 1549.

262—Mr. Banks has not been master of the Boston Grammar School for ten or twelve years; the present master is the Rev. —. Homer.

275—The present patron and vicar of Wrangle is the Rev. T. Wright, the Rev. R. Wright has been dead some years.

277—It is stated that a very ancient drain called the Westlode runs through the west side of the town. There is no vestige now left of this drain, where it was, is now a street called the New Road.

278—The Manor is stated to be in the possession of Lord Eardly. This manor now belongs to Manners Johnson, Esq.

291—The Quakers Meeting-House has been rebuilt and the burying ground is now in front.

320—Lines 6 and 23 for VI. read IV.

321—Line 25 for "Gulls" read "Gules". Lines 25 and 26 for "fesse" read "fess." Lines 28 and 29 should be omitted and the words "St. Bartholomews" and "St. Guthlac's" introduced in lines 25 and 26 respectively between the words "three" and "knives," "three" and "scourges."

322—The Crowland estate was some short time since sold by Mr. Orby Hunter, to the Marquis of Exeter.

339—Line 4th for 81 read 89.

344—Lines 5 and 6 for "his present majesty" read "George III."

352—The Fossway commenced at Salcombe in Devonshire, and proceeded in nearly a strait line north westwardly by Leicester and Newark to Lincoln, and terminated at the mouth of the Humber, in the neighbourhood of Grainthorpe; it could not therefore possibly touch upon Fossdyke parish, from which it must have been at least 10 miles

distant at the nearest point. That Roman embankments and other works existed in the neighbourhood of Fosdyke there can be no doubt, many are still in existence, but the origin of its name must be sought from some other source, and not from the Foss-way.

327—The fairs are held here on the 17th May, 17th September, and 11th & 12th October; the mart is governed by Lynn Mart, and generally happens in the month of March. The trustees of the will of Samuel Tunnard, Esq., are lords of the manor of Holbeach and Whaplode Pipwell, otherwise Pipewell.

329—Samuel Edwards, Esq., is lord of the manor of Holbeach Abbotts, the principal manor; and William Butt, Esq., of the manor of Holbeach Lord D'Acre. There is certainly a manor called the manor of "Holbyge," of which the masters, fellows, and scholars of Saint John the Evangelist, in the University of Cambridge, claim to be lords, but there are no courts, we believe, now held for that manor.

329—It is stated that in 1283, Thomas de Multon Lord Egremont obtained a market and fair for Holbeach. From some papers in our possession we find a reference to a charter in the Tower, thus "Charters 37 Henry III. m. 9. Holbeach Market and Fair---Thomas Multon;" which would make the year 1252, if that is the same charter as referred to.

331—No toll is now collected of persons passing over Holbeach bridge as stated. A spirited individual (Richard Heald, M. D. of Spalding,) successfully resisted the payment of it, by an action brought by him against the lessees, which, was tried at Lincoln Summer Assizes 1827, and since that time the toll has not been collected.

332—Lord Eardley died some years since, J. W. Childers, Esq., is the present lord of the manor of Whaplode Abbotts. The lord of the manor of Saint John of Jerusalem, is Sir Joseph Henry Hawley, Bart. F. Foster, Esq., the lord of the manor of Whaplode Knevitts, is dead, and the manor has been sold since his death; we do not know the present lord's name.

John Johnson Esq., is lord of the manors of Fleet Harrington and Fleet Fitzwalter. Thomas Samuel Seawell, Esq., of the manor of Fleet Dominorum.

335—J. W. Childers, Esq., is lord of the manor of Moulton Harrington, and the moiety of the manor of Moulton Dominorum. The manor of Spalding Cum membris, belonged to the late Dr. Johnson of Spalding.

340—The Soke of Holbeach was in the reign of King Henry VIII., in the hands of William Saint John Lord Pawlet, and was conveyed by him to that King.

The devises of the late James Bellamy, Esq., are lords of the manors of Gedney Abbott and Pawlett; John Fardell, Esq. (of Lincoln,) of the manor of Gedney Welby; and the Marquis of Lothian of the manor of Gedney Burleou. There is no moated square to be seen now in this parish as stated. The lords of the manor of Sutton Holland are Hugh Jackson, and Samuel Jealous, Esqrs.

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17—There is now another communication from the north-west into Lincolnshire besides Gainsboro' and Newark, a Cast Iron Bridge having lately been erected at Dunham, about half way between the two towns, but this, like the Gainsboro' Bridge, being effected by a company of individuals is subject to a heavy toll as at Gainsboro'.

21—Line 9, for "can" read "canno t.

31—Corringham is not strictly speaking "extra-judicial" being a prebendal jurisdiction, but though it is exempt from the authority of the Arch-Deacon, it is subject to that of the Bishop.

35—Line 25 for "Harborough" read "Scarborough."

Owmby is a Rectory remaining in charge, valued in the king's books at £9 3s. 4d. Scarby cum Owmby is a totally distinct place being 12 or 14 miles from this, in a straight line, in the Deanery and Wapentake of Yarburgh and is a discharged vicarage valued at £40 5s. 2d.

38—The chapel at Spittal has been pulled down within the last two or three years, and a plain building been erected on its site.

41—The Watling Street traverses no part of Lincolnshire: running north-westwardly, on the north-east side of Warwickshire and there crossing the Fossway. Stukeley says of the road to Angelocum or Littleboro', that the Romans finding that the Ermine Street running due north, would not lead sufficiently to the west, but must terminate on the sea of Yorkshire, made another road from that, at nearly a right angle, and running westward to Danum or Doncaster, where having gained a sufficient westing, they then turned northward towards York.

43—Line 31 "Stretton" is now called Sturton."

Statistics of Lincolnshire—City of Lincoln, for "St. Margaret in the Close" read "St. Margaret in the City." The close does not appear to be included in this return.

54—The presentation to Barlings belongs alternately to J. Tyrwhitt Drake, Esq., of Shardeloess House Bucks, and Christopher Turnor of Panton, and Stoke Rochford, Esq.

55—The living of Dunholme is in the gift of the prebend of Dunholme in Lincoln Cathedral.

58—Line 2, John George, 4th Lord Monson died 14th November 1809.

59—John Milnes Esq. of Aisthorpe is the present patron of that living.

63—Southrey is subject to a different Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction from Bardney, being under the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, whilst the latter is subject to the Archdeacon of Lincoln.

69—At Sixhills is a Roman Catholic Chapel.

79—Stixwold is north, not south of Tattershall.

Stixwold church was rebuilt two or three years ago; the architect was Mr. W. A. Nicholson of Lincoln.

113—Third line from bottom for "Blackenbury" read "Brackenbury."

114—Thorpe is in the Wapentake of Candleshoo, and not within 3 miles of the nearest part of Bolingbroke Soke.

133—Line 6, for "1615" read "1815."

146—Line 30, for "Grelby" read "Grebby."

149—Aby, Belleau, Calceby, Haugh, Swaby and South Thoresby, are in the wolds: Cawthorpe and Legburn are in Louth-eske Wapentake.

150—Calceby is on the mail coach road from Spilsby to Louth.

170—Line 8, for "Lambton" read "Langton."

176—Third line from bottom for "Kettlesby" read "Ketsby."

188—It would appear from the inscription that the seal here referred to, is the seal of the school, and not of the corporation of Louth.

199—There would seem to be some mistake relative to the annuity of £10 left by Sir John Monson to the schoolmaster of Great Carlton. It is more probable that it was to the master of either North or South Carlton near Lincoln, and which adjoin to Burton and Broxholme, the latter village also joins Saxelby. These three villages must be 35 miles from Great Carlton.

203—North Ormsby is in the patronage of Miss Eliza Charlotte Ansell, and Miss Mary Sophia Ansell, both of Louth.

Wherever the word Kestev*an* occurs, it must be read Kestev*en*.

204—Binbrook is not on the Ancholme, but on a brook which falls into the sea near Tetney.

206—Line 10, for "Burlingthorpe" read "Buslingthorpe."

210—Line 8, for "north-westward" read "south-westward."

211—Line 4, for "Amscott" read "Amcotts."

222—Whitton is famous for its moving sands, which generally extend a considerable way into the Humber, and on which vessels are frequently lost, many distressing wrecks have taken place on them within the last few years.

224—The number of Boys at present in Brigg School is not above half a dozen; the endowment is a most excellent one, being worth near £400 per annum.

228—The crest of the Skipwith family is a greyhound courant.

229—Melton Ross is exactly 5 miles, not 7 from Brigg.

240—In the years 1796 and 1799, two acts of parliament passed for the improvement of the port of Grimsby: a Custom House was built, and a regular establishment of officers appointed, by order of the Lords of his Majesty's Treasury; *not subordinate to Hull*, or any other port or place whatsoever.

In the Harleian MS. 7190, is the following entry: "Thomas Loggon, born in Great Grimsby in Lincolnshire, aged 22 years, Dec. the 25th, 1728. In stature four feet and an inch. My father was Dixon Loggon; my mother's name Mary. My father was a taylor. I have one brother and three sisters, all full grown. I am by trade a Fann-painter, Feb[y] 21, 1728-9. I live at the sine of the Fann in Queen Street, near Montague House. My father was a middle-sized man, and my mother a middle-sized woman."

253—The endowment of Sleaford Grammar School was increased a few years since by the Court of Chancery, on a petition from the inhabitants. At the time the school was founded, the lands out of which the endowment arises, let but for a small sum, the greatest part of which was given for the endowment of the school, and the residue

(but a trifle at the time) for other charitable purposes. The Lord Chancellor considering the founder's intention to be, that the greatest part of the rents should go to the master of the school directed the stipend to be increased on petition as above mentioned: the master's salary is now a tolerably good one.

254—A new peal of five bells has been given by Clifford King, Esq., to the parish church of Ashby de la Launde: they were cast by Mears the Bell Founder of London.

Lincoln Mercury, June 27th 1834.

268—Sir Jennison William Gordon died 9th of May, 1831; Haverholme is now the property of the Earl of Winchelsea.

263 & 264—Swinethorpe and Morton are in the low division of Boothby Graffo.

265—Welbourn is 12 miles from Lincoln, being 2 beyond Wellingore.

Line 11, Col. Neville some years ago took the name of Noel.

266—Line 5 from the bottom, Skellingthorpe is about 4, not 7 miles from Lincoln.

267—Thurlby does not approach within several miles of the Trent river. It is bounded on the east by the Witham, and west by the Roman Foss road and Swinderby parish, north by Auborn, and south by Norton Disney. At Thurlby is the seat of Sir Edward Ffrench Bromhead, Bart.

Line 28 for "Claythorpe" read "Caythorpe."

Ancaster is not on the river Witham; a small brook which flows past the north end of the village runs into the Sleaford river. *See page* 356 *Addenda, line* 20.

269—Brant Broughton derives its name from the Brook Brant on which it is situated, and which falls into the Witham near Auborn. The village is a remarkably neat one, and has one of the most beautiful village churches in the county.

At Caythorpe is the seat of Col. Pack. The spire of this church is also very handsome.

270—At Fulbeck is the seat of Sir Henry Fane.

291—Syston belongs to the trustees of the present Sir John Thorold, a minor, though perhaps Sir Charles and Lady Ogle may reside there at present.

300—Grantham is not on the Ermine Street, it is at least 2 miles distant.

Line 7 from the bottom, Geld is probably the same as the modern Gelstone, in the parish of Hough, about 7 or 8 miles north of Grantham.

302—Line 3 from the bottom, for "£40" read "40s."

THE END.

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